

Inside

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SERIES

Special Analysis:
RICK OR SCOTT STEINER—
WHO IS BETTER?

Jan. 1991
47727

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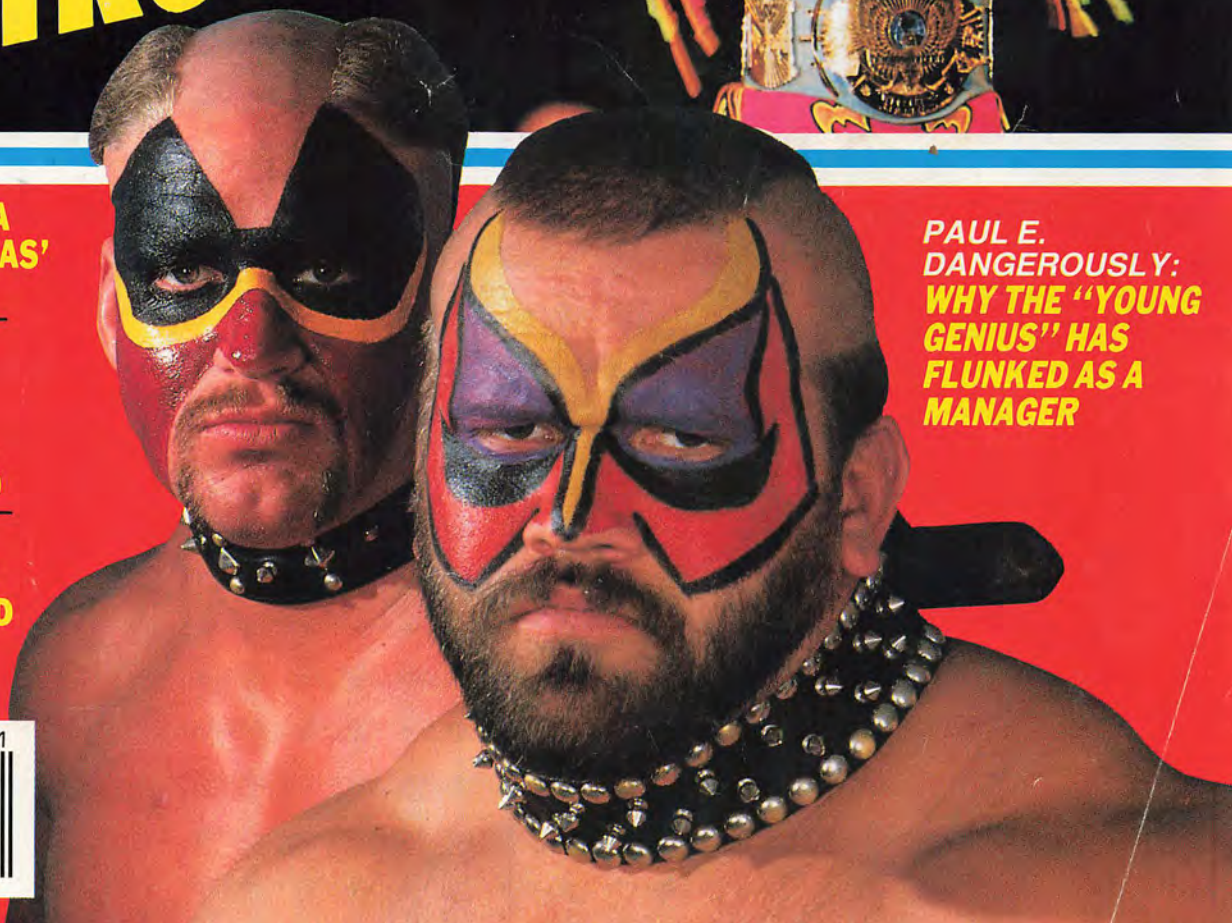
THE LEGION
OF DOOM WILL
LEAD YOU TO
DESTRUCTION

HOW SABA SIMBA
SAVED TONY ATLAS'
CAREER

Jerry Lawler vs.
Terry Funk:
A BLOODY
EXPLOSION OF
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CHRIS ADAMS:
"A BIT OF ME DIES
WHEN JEANNIE AND
TONI WRESTLE"

PAUL E.
DANGEROUSLY:
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INSIDE

CONTENTS/JANUARY 1991

Flair's Finished; Jeannie's Jealousy; Talk Titles, Tito

6 EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK by Stu Saks
The miraculous recovery of Brutus Beefcake

8 NAMES MAKIN' NEWS by Bill Apter
All the latest news as of press time

10 ON THE ROAD with Craig Peters
There are champions—and then there are CHAMPIONS

12 BEHIND THE DRESSING ROOM DOOR by David Rosenbaum
Sam Lowe belongs in a darkroom, not a ring!

14 THE INSIDER by Eddie Ellner
How Ric Flair stayed on top for so long

16 ON ASSIGNMENT by Liz Hunter
Sherri is "Sensational" no longer

18 WHERE ARE THEY NOW?
Updates on four major mat stars

19 CAPSULE PROFILE #174
A mini-biography plus pinup of Rick Rude

22 NEWS FROM THE WRESTLING CAPITALS
Eyewitness coverage of the month's major matches

24 MATT BROCK'S PLAIN SPEAKING
Auto hijinks, Doom doings, and commies carrying on

27 PAUL E. DANGEROUSLY:
WHY THE "YOUNG GENIUS" HAS FLUNKED AS A MANAGER
The yuppie loudmouth has nothing to show for his efforts

30 JERRY LAWLER VS. TERRY FUNK:
A BLOODY EXPLOSION OF PENT-UP HATRED
It was the worst display of violence ever!

34 WARNING TO ULTIMATE WARRIOR:
THE LEGION OF DOOM WILL LEAD YOU TO DESTRUCTION
The WWF champion can't trust his new partners

38 SPECIAL ANALYSIS: RICK OR SCOTT STEINER—WHO IS BETTER?
Who wins this hypothetical battle between brothers?

42 CHRIS ADAMS: "A BIT OF ME DIES WHEN JEANNIE AND TONI WRESTLE"
The "Gentleman" tells all in an emotional "Hotseat" interview

46 HOW SABA SIMBA SAVED TONY ATLAS' CAREER
He's changed his ways, his image, and his ideals

50 ONE ON ONE
Percy Pringle vs. Chris Von Erich

64 OFFICIAL WRESTLING RATINGS
Top 15 rankings in seven important categories

65 INSIDE WRESTLING ROLL CALL OF CHAMPIONS
The most comprehensive championship directory available anywhere

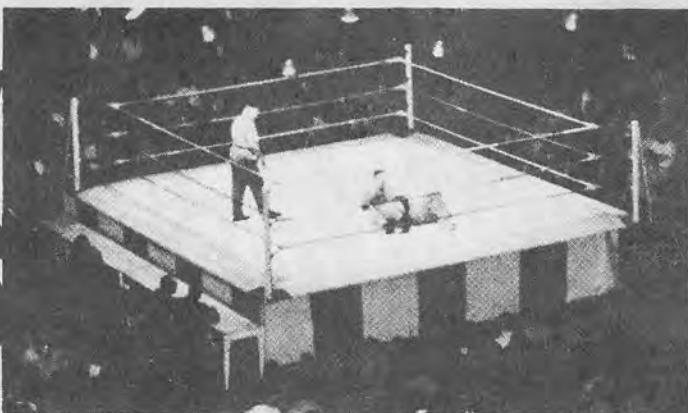
66 BLAST FROM THE PAST
This month in wrestling history

Next issue on sale December 18

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FLAIR'S FINISHED

I completely agree with Dave Rosenbaum's article, "Ric Flair: Why A Seventh Title Is Out Of Reach" (November 1990). Flair was a superb wrestler until The Four Horsemen started to interfere with his matches. Since then, Flair has grown weaker and more dependent on the Horsemen.

I really don't think Flair can win back the title unless he steals it, and that's improbable because the Dudes won't let that happen. Sting is a great champ and I hope he will stay that way.

ERIC THOMPSON
Madison, WI

JEANNIE'S JEALOUSY

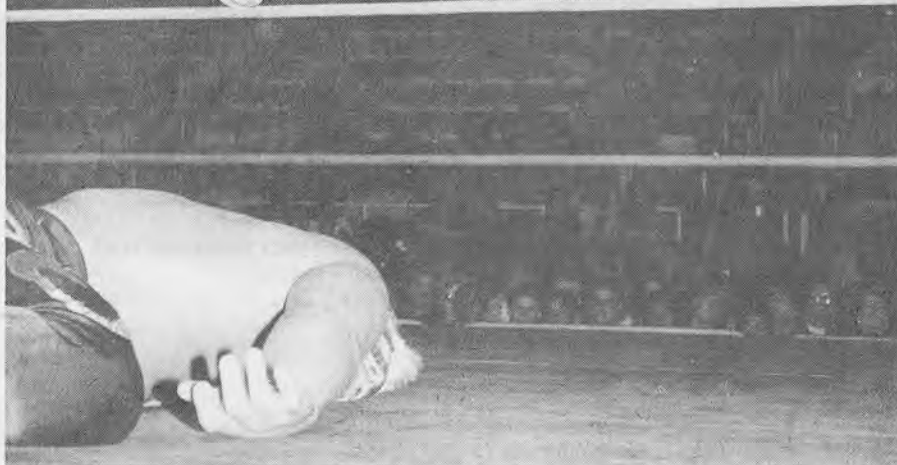
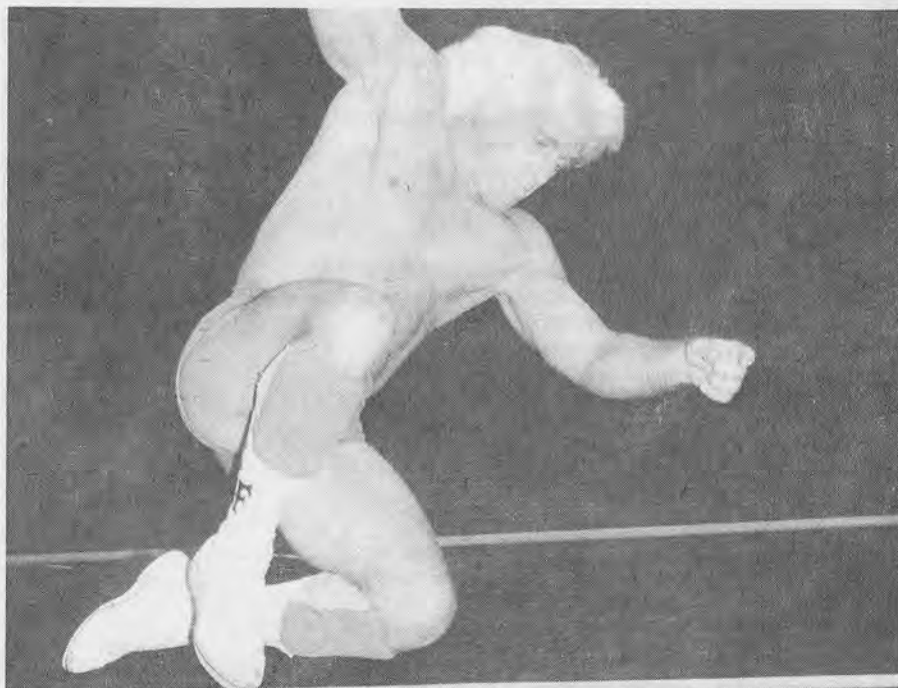
After reading your November 1990 article about Jeannie and Toni Adams (Can The USWA Stop These Savage Wildcats?), I have to say that Jeannie is definitely jealous, and I know how she feels. When my boyfriend left me and I saw him with another girl, I would go crazy. I used to wait for her to walk by alone and I'd confront her and push her around a little bit. It made me feel much better.

Eventually my jealousy wore off, but at first I had no control over it at all. Do what you have to, Jeannie, and know that there are women all over who know how you feel.

ELLEN TOMIZ
Fort Lee, NJ

DON'T BE HAPPY, HULK

It's hard for me to believe that Hulk Hogan is happier without his WWF title belt, as Craig Peters reported in your November edition. If it is true,



Ric Flair may still be good enough to give Sting a decent match, but, in reader Eric Thompson's opinion, he'll never regain the World title.

Hulk isn't the proud competitor that I thought he was.

I understand about all the pressure of being number one, and how that can weigh on an athlete. But if you're a professional, you should thrive on that pressure. Do you think the 49ers don't want to win another Super

Bowl? Do you think the Lakers were relieved when the Pistons ended their reign as NBA champs two years ago? No way! Being the best is what it's all about, and if that's not what Hogan wants, he should get out of wrestling.

BARRY FLINT
Storrs, CT



As popular as he is, Hulk Hogan has many detractors. Reader Ruth Davis says Hulk would never make it in the NWA. Another fan, Connie Pearce, calls the "Hulkster" a glory hog.

DOWN ON THE "HULKSTER"

I'd like to explain why Hulk Hogan will never go to the NWA.

Hogan's great power wins matches for him in the WWF, but in the NWA, against power wrestlers like Lex Luger, Sting, and the Steiners, the "Hulkster" would be lost. The NWA's top stars not only possess power, they know their wrestling holds as well. Hulk's repertoire consists of no more than five holds and would be of little use in the NWA. I have never seen the "Hulkster" execute a dropkick (which even rookies do) or come off the top rope.

Hogan's size and personality carry him in the WWF, but the NWA requires more of its champions.

RUTH DAVIS
Culver City, CA

I have been a longtime fan of Hulk Hogan, but I recently saw a tape of the 1988 Survivor Series that put the "Hulkster" in a whole new light.

That night, Hogan and his teammate, Randy Savage, were the sole survivors. At first I was happy, but then I saw that while Hulk was in the middle of the ring posing for his fans, Savage, who had suffered a terrible beating, was staggering around, barely able to stand up. Hulk was busy showing off, even though his partner was in great pain.

The other side to this story is that while I lost respect for Hogan, I gained respect for The Ultimate Warrior. Prior to the Hulk-Savage incident, Warrior was the sole survivor of his five-man team. After that event, the Warrior, instead of bragging about himself, said, "Every member of my team gave all he had and we did it together."

While Hogan didn't want to share credit with his teammate who was also

a sole survivor, The Ultimate Warrior was compelled to share the glory with every member of his team, even though none of them had survived. Way to be, Warrior!

CONNIE PEARCE
Bonney Lake, WA

WAKE UP, HORSEMEN

It made me sick to read The Four Horsemen's order to Sid Vicious, "Get Luger's Belt—Or Get Out," in your November issue. How can the Horsemen have such little respect for one of their own members? As much as I dislike the Horsemen, I have to admit that they've been an impressive presence in the NWA for a long time. If they want to continue their dominance, they have to start respecting each other.

Vicious is a powerful, raw wrestler with tremendous talent. He's still learning, and if the Horsemen turn their backs on him now, they'll only regret

(Continued on page 52)



If the Horsemen dare turn against Sid Vicious, he'll definitely make them regret it, writes reader Elvin Thomas.

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Stu
Saks

Editor-in-Chief

One could only imagine the amount of pain Brutus Beefcake experienced when his face was crushed by the knees of a parasailer on the Fourth of July. In simple terms, nearly every bone in his face was broken by the impact of the blow. I still shudder every time I think about it.

My biggest fear wasn't that Beefcake wouldn't be able to wrestle again, but that he would be disfigured for life.

I am happy to say that those fears have been put to rest. We caught up with Beefcake recently and managed to get a photograph that shows, more than anything else, just how far the science of medicine has come.

Folks, Beefcake looks terrific! And if you doubt me, pick up the January 1991 edition of The Wrestler and see for yourself.

If I didn't know any better, I wouldn't believe he had undergone more than eight hours of reconstructive surgery, and had eight steel plates, 40 screws, and more than 100 staples placed in his head. The surgeon, Dr. Mutaz Habal, must be commended for his brilliant work.

The decision on whether Beefcake will wrestle again won't be made for another month when the wrestler, his doctor, and the doctor's staff meet in Tampa Bay, Florida. And, quite frankly, I'd be surprised if they would want to risk allowing him to get kneedropped in the face by a menacing 300-pounder. But Beefcake is young, intelligent, and determined. Those traits will lead him to success in whatever field he pursues.

What happened to Brutus Beefcake was a terrible tragedy. In no way do I mean to minimize the importance of being forced to give up a profitable and satisfying livelihood. But things could have been much worse, and Beefcake is aware of that. I think, if it comes down to it, he'd trade in a wrestling career for the ability to lead a normal life without giving it a second's thought.

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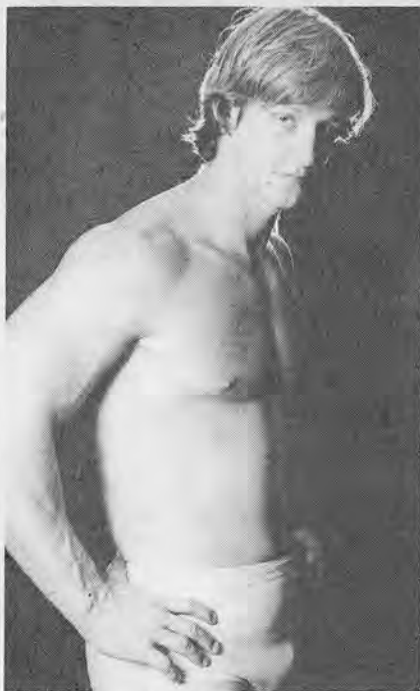
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NAMES MAKING

THE WORLD CLASS Wrestling Association banner has been raised again. The organization that became autonomous when it withdrew from the NWA in 1986 and then went into partnership with the USWA last August, is once again on its own. World Class will maintain its base of operations in Dallas, while the USWA will continue to operate from its Memphis base. The two promotions had worked in conjunction with each other under the USWA banner for a little more than a year, but are splitting over what was been described by officials as "philosophical differences."

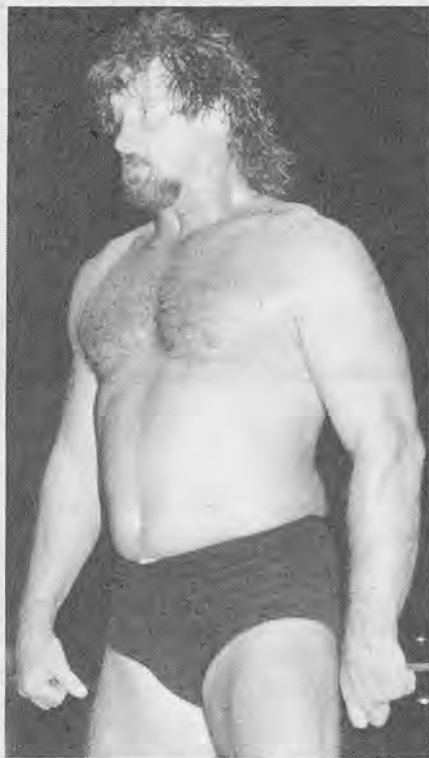
Many stars who have been associated with World Class in the past will continue to wrestle for the revived promotion. Appearing on the first "new" World Class card were **Kevin Von Erich**, **John Tatum**, **Iceman Parsons**, **Skip Young**, **Skandor Akbar**, and **Steve Dane**. Announcer **Marc Lowrance** has also returned to the promotion.



KEVIN VON ERICH

"This is a great day for Texas wrestling fans," said Von Erich after World Class made its comeback on September 21 at the Sportatorium in Dallas. "Some of the greatest matches in wrestling history took place under the World Class banner. I was proud to be a part of this organization in the past, and I'm even prouder to be part of what I hope will be a bright future."

Meanwhile, the USWA continues to present cards in Tennessee, Kentucky, and Indiana. The organization had been missing a champion since August when **The Snowman** was stripped of the USWA belt for missing several title



TERRY FUNK

defenses. The title was scheduled to be filled in a tournament on October 8 in Memphis. Slated to take part in the one-night event were, among others, **Jerry Lawler**, **Eddie Gilbert**, PWF champion **Steve Keirn**, **Terry Funk**, **Austin Idol**, **Jimmy Valiant**, and **Mark Callous**.



JEFF JARRETT

In other USWA news, **Jeff Jarrett** and **Jeff Gaylord** regained the USWA tag team title from **Brian Lee** and **Don Harris** on September 17 in Memphis. Things looked bleak for the challengers after Harris slugged Jarrett with a foreign object and went for the pin. Referee **Frank Morell**, who was handcuffed to manager **Downtown Bruno** for the bout, informed in-ring referee **Jerry Calhoun** about the rules infraction, and Calhoun stopped the count. As Harris argued with Calhoun, Jarrett rolled up Harris for the winning pin.

Former wrestling great **Prof. Toru Tanaka** is back on the big screen again! Tanaka, a three-time WWF World tag team champion with **Mr. Fuji**, has a small role in **Darkman**, the action film that was a big summer blockbuster . . . **Jim Garvin** of **The Freebirds** injured his left leg during a match against **Allen Iron Eagle** and **Brian Pillman** on September 24 in

N' NEWS

Bill Apter
reporting...

Marietta, Georgia. Garvin's knee was hyperextended, and he was expected to miss several weeks of action . . . **D.C. Drake** won the first Tri-State Wrestling Alliance title by defeating **Rockin' Rebel** on September 15 in Philadelphia. **Woman**, who managed the devious Drake during the event, threw powder in Rebel's face to set up the victory. Rebel was to be seconded by **Baby Doll**, but she left the ringside area after being paid off by Woman.



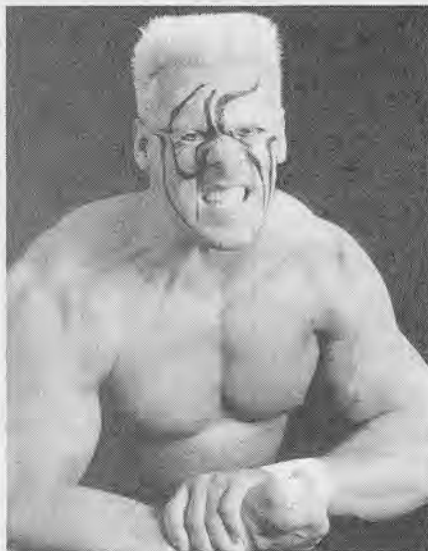
RICK MARTEL

A feud between **Rick Martel** and **Jake Roberts** is brewing in the WWF. During the September 18 television taping at the Toledo (Ohio) Sports Arena, Roberts was a guest for a **Brother Love** interview segment, but for some reason Martel was also on the set. During the interview, Roberts pulled his pet snake, **Damian**, out of the bag, and Martel sprayed "Arrogance" cologne at the reptile. Martel then sprayed Jake in the face before running off.

Roberts was livid following the unexpected spray job. Although he was unhurt, Roberts was extremely upset about his snake being doused. Martel

has been sidelined since early August with a pinched nerve in his right arm, but look for Roberts to be on his tail when he returns to action.

NWA World champion **Sting** has been attacked again! The latest attempt to injure the popular titleholder took place during an NWA television taping on September 17 in Marietta, Georgia. As Sting was being interviewed in the ring by **Jim Ross**, **Sid Vicious** came to the ring and insulted the champion. After Vicious was through, the mysterious **Black Scorpion** ran in the ring and blindsided Sting.



STING

"Just another day at the office," griped Sting, who was shaken up but not seriously hurt. "I don't know who the Scorpion is, but I'm not going to rest until I unmask him in front of the whole world. As for Vicious, he's got his share of title matches coming up. Let's see if that big body can back up his big mouth."

Newcomers to the NWA include **Moondog Rex**, **J.W. Storm**, **The Ringlords**, and **The Julcer**, who was formerly known as **Beetlejuice** in the Pacific Northwest . . . Officials held up



RICKY SANTANA

the PNW tag team title following a September 22 bout in Portland, Oregon. The former champions, **Al Madril** and **Ricky Santana**, intentionally disqualified themselves by striking referee **Sandy Barr** with a foreign object. Rather than allow them to keep their belts by the DQ rule, officials ordered the belts held up pending a rematch. Bravo to PNW officials for taking a tough stand! . . . The Universal Wrestling Federation, a new promotion based in California, can now be seen on the SportsChannel America cable network. Among the competitors on the first TV tapings were **Steve Williams**, **Bob Orton**, and **Paul Orndorff**. **Bruno Sammartino** and **Capt. Lou Albano** are commentators for the fledgling federation . . . **Eric Embry** is back, and he's breaking the rules again. He teamed with **Rick Valentine** to win the WWC Caribbean tag team title from **Hurricane Castillo Jr.** and **Miguel Perez Jr.** on September 23 in Juana Diaz, Puerto Rico.

Former wrestling great **Bert Assirati**, 82, died on August 31 in England. Assirati held the British Empire and European titles during his 31-year career.

That's all for now, fans. See you at the matches! □

STING MAY NOT get to answer all of his fan mail, but I know for a fact that he does read it all. I caught up to the NWA World champion before a recent title defense against Ric Flair in Detroit. He was in the corner of one of the locker rooms, removed from most distractions, with a bundle of letters.

By chance, I caught a glimpse of one letter that had a newspaper clipping attached to it. I was curious what kind of article it might be, and asked Sting if he wouldn't mind my looking at it. He said he didn't, and handed over the letter and the clipping.

First the clipping, from the August 9, 1990, edition of *The Cabool [Missouri] Enterprise* newspaper:

Two young Cabool boys, ages 6 and 7, came to the aid of a Pineview Heights resident when she became ill near the corner of Hickory and Main Streets Tuesday afternoon.

Wade Bloomer, 6, and Colter Cook, 7, began helping Mary McGowan as she was walking back to her apartment from downtown as she appeared to not be feeling well. A passing motorist, Verla Wood, also noticed McGowan as she began to collapse and stopped to help her out.

Young Cook ran to the high-rise to summon a nurse who came to help while Bloomer stayed with the patient to try to comfort her along with others who had arrived by then.

The Cabool-based Texas County Hospital ambulance took McGowan to Mtn. View where ambulance attendant Tom Whittaker says she was admitted to a hospital. Whittaker said McGowan had nothing but praise for the two lads who helped her.

Now the letter:

Dear Sting:

Congratulations on winning the [NWA World] belt from Ric Flair. I had hoped that you would for a very long time.

The reason I am writing is to let you know the kind of role model you are to children. This clip is from our local newspaper about my son and his best friend. I asked him why he did this, he said, "Mom, I just did what 'Stinger' would do."

I am proud of you and the standards that you set for today's youth. If you ask me, you are a real hero—and so is my son.

Best wishes for a long title reign. May it be free from controversy and be truly prosperous.

Sincerely,

Kathy Cook

Cabool, Missouri

ON THE ROAD

with
CRAIG PETERS

I handed the letter and clipping back to Sting, who put down the letter he had been reading and gazed into the clipping as if he were trying to look all the way to Cabool from Detroit.

"Kind of scary in a way," he said quietly, and placed the clipping and letter back in his briefcase. I knew what he was driving at with his comment: The responsibility of being a celebrity in the public eye means that the public will look up to you as a role model.

Hopefully, if you set a good example—as Sting obviously has—you'll influence people into acting responsibly.

However, if you set a bad example, you may influence people into acting irresponsibly.

(Which, by the way, is the basis of the fears being expressed by Tipper Gore and the Parents' Music Resource Center—and groups of similar political and sociological inclinations—in relation to heavy metal music, rap, and rock 'n' roll, and is why you're beginning to see warning labels on albums, cassettes, and compact discs. But that's a First Amendment issue for another time.)

I looked at Sting and smiled. "Kind of nice, in a way, too," I added.

"Yeah," he replied, "sure is. I may have a gold belt around my waist, but those two kids—and, I hope, thousands of kids like them around the country—are the *real* champions."

Sting returned to his mail, and I left him to his thoughts and feelings, one of which, I'm sure, was a bit of frustration. I've spoken to him about it before, how he doesn't have the time to answer all of his fan mail, and therefore tends to speak to his fans in interviews rather than answer some mail and not answer the rest ("I'd feel like I'm cheating the ones I didn't write to," he once told me).

Now, however, two good kids and one very proud mother know *exactly* how the "Stinger" feels.

And Sting is absolutely right—it takes more than a belt to make a champion.

Sting was a champion long before he pinned Flair's shoulders to the mat. □



Sting

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TOP SECRET

Behind the Dressing Room Door

by David Rosenbaum

BEHIND THE DARKROOM door with ... former *Inside Wrestling* photographer Sam Lowe.

"That's Sam Bass Lowe," Lowe corrected while mixing the developer. Funny thing about Sam: He looks better under red light.

These days, Lowe is one of the most hated men in the USWA. His relationship with Eddie and Doug Gilbert and Tony Anthony has earned him that honor, as has his feud with Jerry Lawler (Sam Bass—the *real* Sam Bass—was Lawler's first manager).

"Just a little mind game," Lowe said. "Now, if you'll allow me to turn on the lights, I'll show you the next step in my little mind game. I've got the photos."

The photos?

Lowe stepped into an adjoining room and pulled a folder out of a file cabinet. "CONFIDENTIAL" it was marked.

"The evidence," Lowe said. "These photos will wipe Jerry Lawler off the wrestling map."

He handed me a 5 x 7. The picture was dark and fuzzy. The man in the picture had his back turned. He also appeared to be stuffing cans of food into his coat pocket.

"Jerry Lawler, hero of the people. And here he is, shoplifting," Lowe said. "As this photo clearly points out, Lawler is a criminal."

Actually, the photo didn't clearly point out *anything*. The photo wasn't even clear. And the man in the photo didn't appear at all to be Lawler.

The next photo was even less conclusive. It showed a dark-haired man holding hands with a young woman. This time, the man's head was facing the camera; but the photo was so dark, it

(Continued on page 56)



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#3 GREAT AMERICAN BASH '90 NEW REVOLUTION

Sting, back in action in a wrestling revolution as the greatest stars from the NWA battle the new young aggressors! Sting in a great comeback against Ric Flair for the championship. Also: Doom vs. Rock 'n Roll Express, Mean Mark vs. Lex Luger, Southern Boys, etc.

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Sixty minutes of action from the Great American Bash '85 in Charlotte, N.C.. Highlights include NWA World champion Ric Flair vs. Nikita Koloff, The Road Warriors vs. Ivan Koloff & Krusher Khrushchev, Dusty Rhodes vs. Tully Blanchard in a cage, Magnum T.A. vs. Kamala and more!

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The NWA's greatest wrestlers converge in Washington D.C., for a Congress of Capital Combat! Sting & Robocop make a special appearance to watch six-time champ Ric Flair & Lex Luger in a steel cage for the Championship. Also: The Steiners vs. Doom; Fly'n Brian & Z-Man vs. Midnight Express, Rock 'n Roll's, etc.

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#6 WRESTLE WAR '89 MUSIC CITY SHOWDOWN

Ric Flair regains the NWA belt from Rick Steamboat on May 7, 1989 in Nashville. Some call it the match of the decade! Also: Lex Luger vs. Michael Hayes, Road Warriors vs. Rotundo & Williams; and more!

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#7 WRESTLE WAR '90 WILD THING

Lex Luger could have won the NWA title from Ric Flair, but saving Sting from a crippling attack from the Andersons took priority! Also: Steiners vs. Andersons, Road Warriors vs. Skyscrapers and more!

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THE

INSIDER

By Eddie Ellner

[The opinions expressed in "The Insider" are those of Eddie Ellner alone, and do not necessarily represent the opinions of anyone else on the staff of this magazine.]

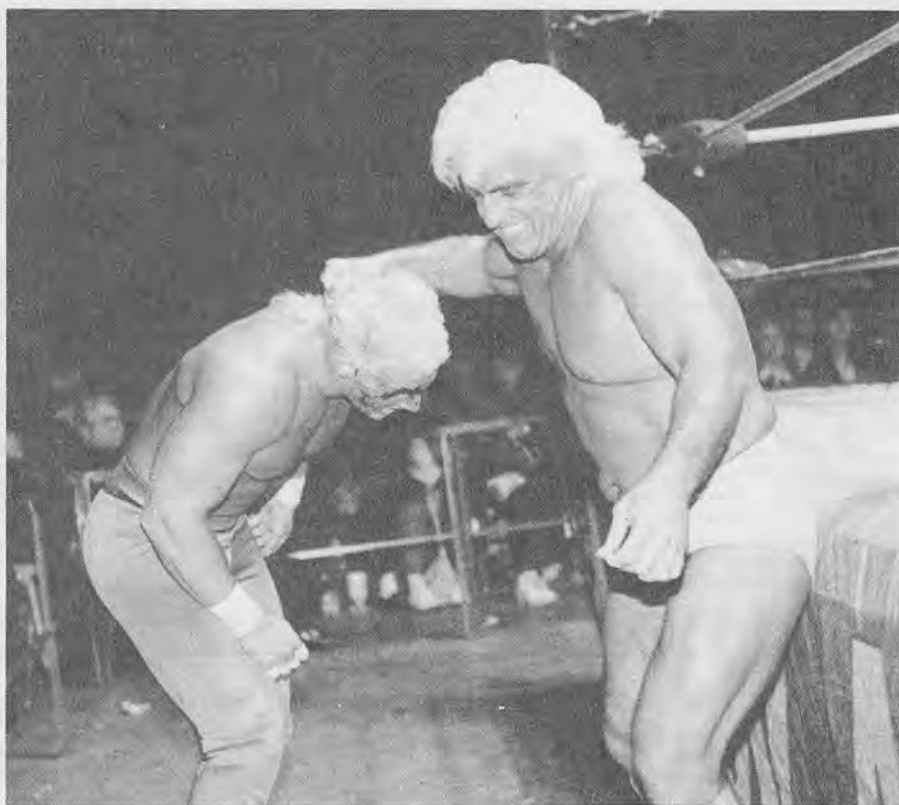
NEWS ITEM: Horseman Chomping At The Bit

"HORSEMEN UNITY HAS never been stronger," asserted manager Ole Anderson. "Ric Flair is 100 percent behind Sid Vicious getting a shot at Sting. There are no problems in our family. None at all."

Ever hear the expression "talking out of the corner of his mouth?" Well, Ole Anderson's claim of Horsemen unity was spoken from the dim recesses of his imagination. If ego were an Olympic sport, Ric Flair would have retired the gold medal. Does he want a Horseman to own the NWA championship? You bet he does! Is there a Horseman other than himself he would like to see wear the belt? Not on Sting's life!

Writing in *Pro Wrestling Illustrated Weekly*, Associate Editor Andy Rodriguez raised a valid point: "Privately, Flair wants no one—not even a Horseman—to throw obstacles in his path back to the top."

Flair hordes his limelight with the same tenacity as fellow inflatable egos Hulk Hogan and Dusty Rhodes. It is not in Flair's nature to be humble, modest, or supportive—unless it is to his ultimate



Ric Flair may publicly support the other Horsemen's World title aspirations, but he'd be extremely upset if it wasn't he who actually beat Sting.

benefit. Rodriguez is correct again by dismissing title shots by Sid Vicious as attempts by the Horsemen to "soften" Sting up for Flair. There isn't a wrestler in the federation who doesn't covet the World title belt for himself.

However, Flair's influence with the Horsemen is so pervasive that it is possible he has rendered Vicious incapable of winning the belt. According to this astonishing revelation from Lex Luger, that is exactly what happened to him.

"It was the strangest thing," the brash, cocky Luger recalls. "When I was with the Horsemen, Flair managed to create such an

exalted image of himself that I felt I was in the presence of a god. Not that I went around bowing to Flair. What happens is you get used to the idea of him as champion. It becomes a permanent association. Not only did I not think I could not win the crown, I didn't feel I was entitled to it as long as Flair was around. And I know now that the rest of the Horsemen felt the same way. In that stable, Flair has always been the man. It wasn't till I left that I discovered he's a mutt."

So where does that leave Sid Vicious, who, at this writing, was

(Continued on page 58)

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A—ON— ASSIGNMENT

BY LIZ HUNTER

SHERRI MARTEL WAS once one of the finest and most respected wrestlers in the sport. I'm talking male or female. Martel found her way around the ring with the best of them.

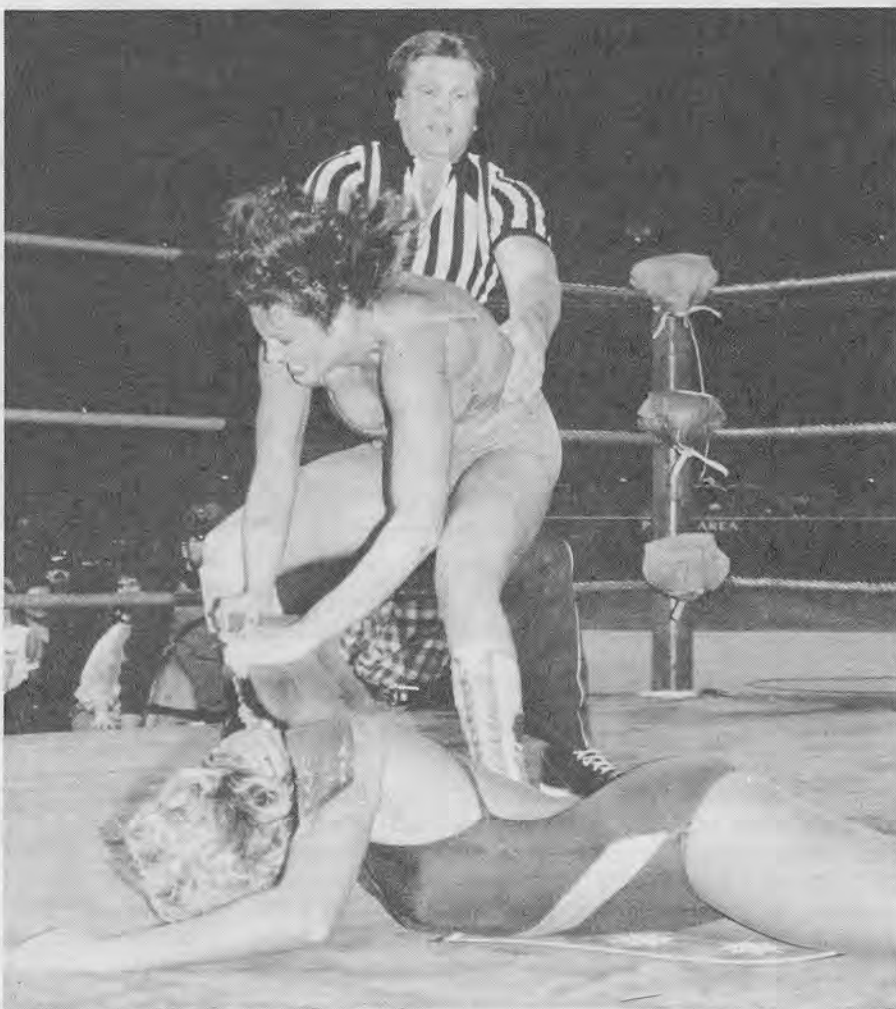
She was an AWA World women's champion. Then she went to the WWF and won the World women's title there, too. Sherri Martel was a proven winner, and there wasn't a female on the beat that wasn't proud of her.

Nor a male—including crusty old Matt Brock—that didn't admire her courage and strength. This woman could *wrestle*. She obviously spent time learning the science of the sport. Although no relation to Rick, she did the Martel name proud.

Of course, many people didn't like her attitude and her aggressiveness, but that's usually the reaction when a woman starts to dominate in a man's world. Let's face it: Sherri Martel never did anything that Ric Flair didn't do, too.

But there was another side to Sherri, a side I never liked and never got used to. I never understood why she had to show it, but she did.

It was that side that, for some reason, revolved around men. First it was "Playboy" Buddy Rose and Doug Somers in the AWA. They were AWA World tag team champions thanks to Sherri's cheating. Then it was Kevin Kelly, who made a brief run at the AWA World title. Now it's Randy



Sherri Martel is an outstanding wrestler, having won both the AWA and WWF World women's titles. But as *Sensational Sherri*, writes Liz Hunter, she is an embarrassment.

Savage in the WWF.

It's this "Sensational Sherri" side of Sherri Martel that I (along with a lot of other women) just can't handle.

First she does us proud, then she buries the evidence under a shroud of thievery, and deception.

Sherri Martel was a great wrestler.

Sensational Sherri can't be stomached.

By calling herself Sensational Sherri, she's wiping out the memory of the great Sherri Martel. By acting like a witch, she's giving all women a bad name (she is, after all, a celebrated woman in the public eye). By constantly grabbing onto Savage, she's making us all look weak.

Obviously, I don't like it.

Of course, I'm not too wild
(Continued on page 60)

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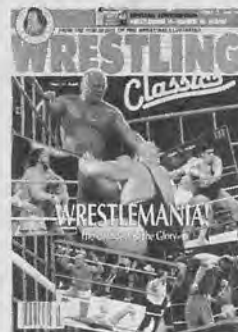
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☐ **April 1990:** A Decade Of Feuds: Bruno-Zbyszko (1980), Andre-Khan (1981), Backlund-Snuka (1982), Piper-Valentine (1984), Slaughter-Sheik (1984), Flair-Nikita (1985), Hogan-Orndorff (1986). Classic Ratings (1980). Future Classics: Duggan, Luger.



☐ **July 1990:** WrestleMania! The Grandeur & The Glory: An In-Depth Look At WrestleManias I-V. Classic WrestleMania VI Foldout: Hogan-Ultimate Warrior. Classic Ratings (1985). Future Classics: Skyscrapers-Road Warriors, Lawler-JYD.

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WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Do you have a favorite wrestler who has left your area? Are you wondering where he is today? Then this special column is just for you. Each month we will update the whereabouts of four current or former wrestlers



ANDRE THE GIANT

At press time, the legendary Giant, a 20-year veteran, was set to embark on a tour of Japan, where he is widely respected. Andre, a WWF World tag team champion with Haku from December 1989 to April 1990, is

also negotiating with promoters in Austria and Germany. In the U.S., Andre has been inundated with TV commercial offers. He was most recently seen as a good-natured giant in a Honeycomb cereal spot.



RICK BASSMAN

The man who formed Powerteam U.S.A., the squad that started The Ultimate Warrior and Sting on the road to world-championship success, is currently a marketing and promotions executive for the Walt Disney Company in Orlando, Florida.

His latest venture in the sport was helping bring IWA wrestling to Disney World. Bassman has recently been negotiating for several other promotions to run cards at the vacation spot.



BLACK GORDMAN

Gordman, who formed a superb tag team with Goliath on the West Coast in the mid-1970s, now lives in New York City. The native of Mexico still wrestles occasionally on independent cards in the Northeast. He's

also a wrestling trainer. "I enjoy teaching young men about this great sport," he says with pride. "I got a lot out of it and I intend to give as much back. Maybe I'll team with one of these men and win a title!"



BEN JUSTICE

Justice and The Stomper were one of the Midwest's most famous tag teams back in the 1970s, winning a host of regional titles. They were also quite popular in Canada. Today, Justice lives in Detroit, where he is a suc-

cessful businessman. One of his favorite activities is pleasure boating. "When the business world starts to feel like the old mat wars, I just get out on my boat, ride the water, and relax," he says.

INSIDE WRESTLING

174

CAPSULE PROFILE

"RAVISHING" RICK RUDE is arrogant and provocative, but he's an outstanding wrestler ... After training under Eddie Sharkey, made his professional debut in 1983, defeating Tiny Mills in Vancouver, British Columbia (*"A piece of cake"*) ... Achieved initial fame with Jimmy Hart's *"First Family"* in the Mid-Southern area (*"Jimmy had things under control"*) ... Changed his last name from *"Rood"* to *"Rude"* (*"It reflected the necessary change in attitude"*) ... Hired a valet named Angel (*"This particular beauty stood out"*) ... After Rude and King Kong Bundy lost the Mid-Southern tag team title, Hart boot-ed Rude out of the group (*"Big, big mistake"*) ... Began feuding with his former mates (*"They needed to be taught a lesson"*) ... Traveled to Florida, where he signed with Percy Pringle (*"The new scenery did wonders"*) ... Pringle led him to two Southern titles and the U.S. (Florida) tag team championship (*"A success naturally achieved"*) ... Duo left the Sunshine State for World Class (*"New venues to conquer"*) ... Soon after winning the American title from Ice-man Parsons, World Class seceded from the NWA and changed the name of that belt to the World Class championship (*"It couldn't have been more appropriate"*) ... Dumped Pringle af-

RICK RUDE

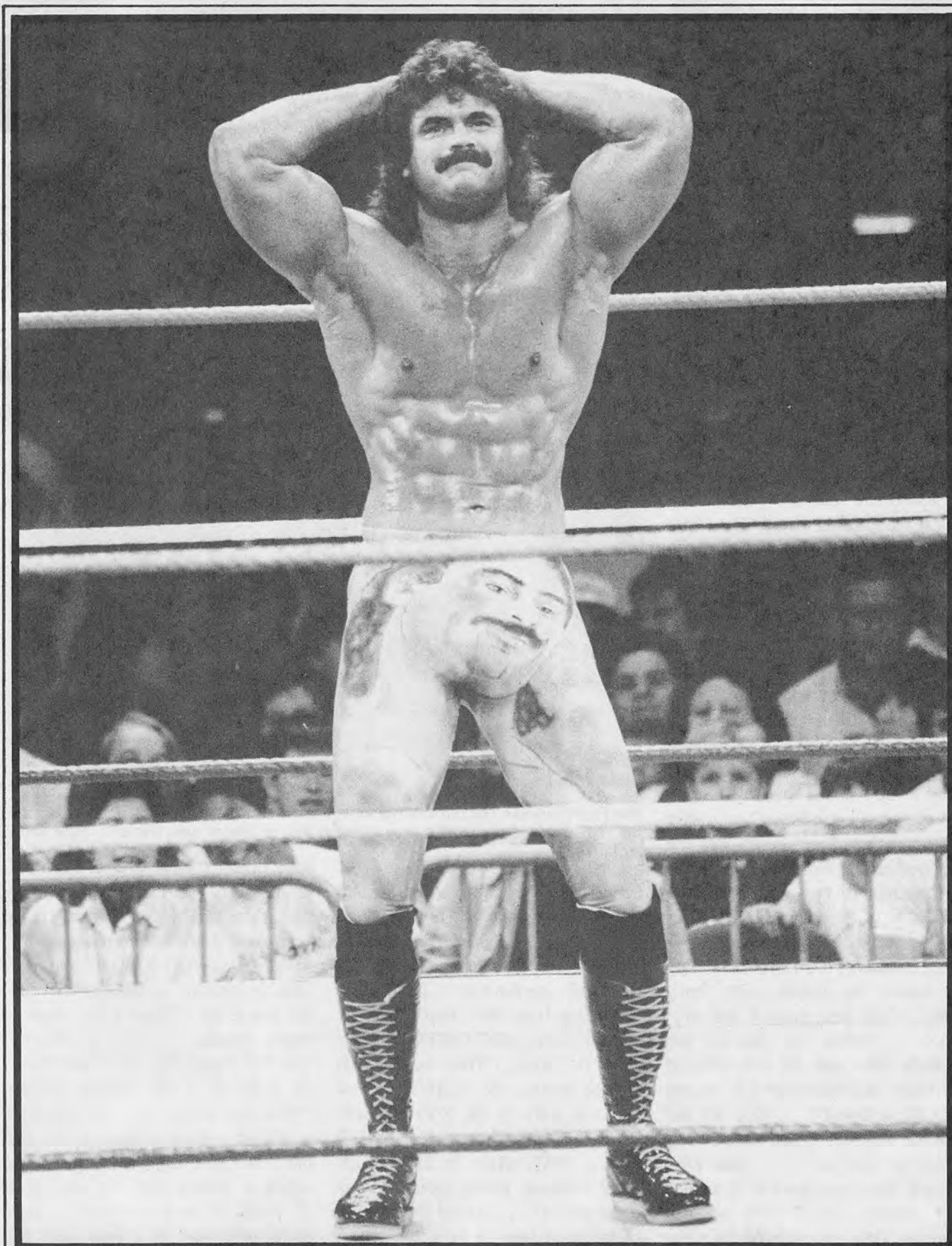


Rick Rude chinlocks The Ultimate Warrior in a match just days after Rude upset Warrior for the WWF Intercontinental title. More recently, they've feuded over Warrior's World title.

ter the manager's interference cost him the title (*"Percy went too far that time"*) ... Went to the NWA, where he took on Paul Jones as his manager and teamed with Manny Fernandez (*"A deadly combination"*) ... Won the World tag team title from The Rock 'n' Roll Express after challenging them at a TV taping (*"They were stupid enough to take the match"*) ... Lost the belts back to the Rock 'n' Rolls (*"Pure luck is all"*) ... Left the NWA for the WWF, where he took on another manager, Bobby Heenan (*"Simply a genius"*) ... Started the practice of kissing a woman from the crowd after each victory (*"How could they resist?"*) ... Feuded with Jake Roberts after he unwittingly tried to kiss Jake's

wife, Cheryl (*"What a cow!"*) ... Upset The Ultimate Warrior to win the Intercontinental title at WrestleMania V on April 2, 1989 (*"Surprised all the so-called experts"*) ... Lost the belt back to Warrior at SummerSlam '89 on August 28 (*"There hasn't been a bigger injustice"*) ... After Warrior won the World title at WrestleMania VI, Rude went into intense training (*"Beat him once, could do it again"*) ... Failed in many attempts to win the title, the most notable being a cage match at SummerSlam '90 on August 27 (*"Call it SummerScam"*) ... Currently embroiled in a feud with Big Bossman (*"The Cobb County cretin will pay for what he did to Heenan!"*) □

CAPSULE PROFILE PINUP



RICK RUDE

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August 1988/Stories include: Savage, Missy Hyatt, Sting, Hayes, Honky Tonk.
October 1988/Stories include: Megapowers vs. Megabucks, Horsemen, Lawler.
November 1988/Stories include: Rhodes, Kerry, Luger, Muraco, Freebirds.

December 1988/Stories include: Powers of Pain, Ultimate, Flair, Piper.
January 1989/Stories include: R&R Express, Hogan, Sting, Arn, Kerry-Lawler.
February 1989/Stories include: Hogan-Bossman, Tully & Arn, Warriors-Windham-Sting.
March 1989/Stories include: Hennig, Midnights-Midnights, Fuller & Golden, Ultimate.
May 1989/Stories include: Hogan, Steiner, Morton, Bad Co., Taylor.
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October 1990/Stories include: Sting, Legion of Doom, Bushwhackers, Gigante.
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NEWS FROM THE

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WEST PALM BEACH, FL

By Duane Long



**DUSTY RHODES
vs.
TED DIBIASE**



Rhodes controlled much of the match, until DiBiase began arguing with the referee. DiBiase's ploy worked, as Virgil climbed into the ring and smashed Rhodes with DiBiase's "million-dollar belt." Fans were surprised that Dusty would fall for such a move, and speculated that the "Dream" was still upset over the way DiBiase wooed Sapphire away from him. DiBiase turned away from the ref and easily covered Rhodes for the pin.

OTHER BOUTS: Battle Cat pinned Steve Lombardi ... Bob Bradley pinned Jim Powers ... The Orient Express defeated The Bushwhackers ... Saba Simba pinned Buddy Rose ... Jimmy Snuka defeated The Warlord by disqualification ... Jake Roberts pinned Akeem.

SEATTLE, WA

By Jason Cook



**KERRY VON ERICH
vs.
HAKU**



Von Erich tried for a quick win after a few elbowsmashes. He was about to use the clawhold when Haku countered with a savage kick to the throat. Haku then dominated the next few minutes of action. Kerry regained the momentum by whipping Haku into the ropes and delivering a high backdrop. After Haku crashed to the mat, Von Erich clamped on the clawhold, then whipped Haku into the ropes and smashed him with a "tornado punch" to score the pin.

OTHER BOUTS: Dustin Rhodes pinned Pez Whatley ... Steve Lombardi pinned Jim Brunzell ... Jim Powers defeated Barry O ... Sgt. Slaughter beat Nikolai Volkoff by submission ... The Hart Foundation defeated Greg Valentine & The Honky Tonk Man ... Big Bossman & Tugboat beat Dino Bravo & Earthquake.

GREENSBORO, NC

By Ann See



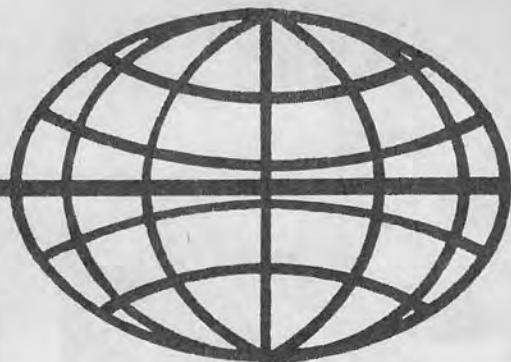
**STING
vs.
MARK CALLOUS**



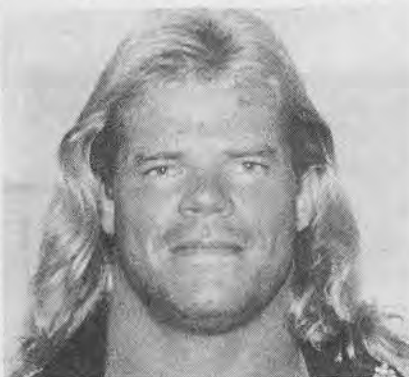
Sting took the early advantage, but Callous was able to mount an excellent attack. After a few minutes, it appeared as though Callous might upset Sting for the NWA World title. Paul E. Dangerously ordered Callous to bring Sting over to him so he could hit the champion with his portable telephone. Paul E. swung the telephone, but Sting ducked, Callous was hit with the phone, and the champion easily pinned him.

OTHER BOUTS: Doom defeated The Rock 'n' Roll Express ... Lex Luger beat Dan Spivey by countout ... Tommy Rich pinned Harley Race ... The Midnight Express beat Tom Zenk & Brian Pillman ... Junkyard Dog pinned Joe Cazana ... Wendell Cooley defeated Barry Horowitz.

WRESTLING CAPITALS



FT. WORTH, TX By Nelson Massey



**LEX LUGER
vs.
SID VICIOUS**

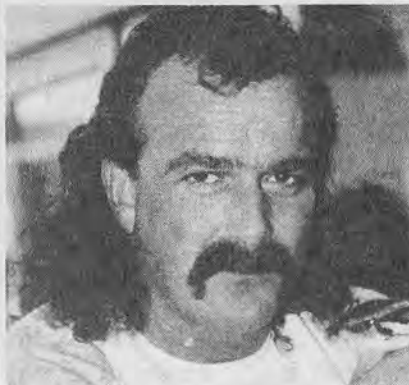


U.S. champion Luger didn't enjoy his customary size advantage against this particular challenger. The match started out evenly, as the two men exchanged power moves. But slowly, Luger began to gain the advantage. His superior scientific skills were making the difference. He eventually won the match by count-out. Although he didn't score a pinfall, it was clear to everyone why Luger has been such a dominant U.S. champion. **OTHER BOUTS:** Norman defeated Barry Horowitz ... Bill Irwin pinned David Sierra ... Stan Hansen pinned Tommy Rich ... The Freebirds defeated The Southern Boys ... Susan Sexton pinned Bambi ... El Gigante defeated Dr. X ... Sting pinned Ric Flair.

LONDON, ONTARIO By Steve Argintaru



**CURT HENNIG
vs.
JAKE ROBERTS**



"Mr. Perfect" wrestled like an animal, kicking, punching, and elbowsmashing Roberts. Jake did get in some well-executed moves, but he was unable to counteract Hennig, who choked "The Snake" with a rope while simultaneously trying to clamp on a sleeperhold. As Jake was about to black out, the referee noticed the rope and disqualified Hennig, who was anything but perfect on this particular night. **OTHER BOUTS:** The Orient Express defeated The Bushwhackers ... Hack-saw Duggan pinned Akeem ... Jimmy Snuka pinned The Barbarian ... Koko B. Ware pinned Lanny Poffo ... Shane Douglas defeated Black Bart ... The Ultimate Warrior pinned Rick Rude.

PHILADELPHIA, PA By William Lengua



**EDDIE GILBERT
vs.
CACTUS JACK**



One of the great matches on this Tri-State Wrestling Association card pitted "Hot Stuff" Eddie Gilbert, who's been terrorizing the USWA, against the dazed and confused Cactus Jack. Gilbert used his cunning ways to keep Jack off-balance throughout a good part of the match. Whenever it looked like Gilbert was in trouble, he did something to escape. Finally, Gilbert caught Jack with his "hotshot" maneuver (dropping him neck-first on the ropes) and pinned him. **OTHER BOUTS:** Jerry Lawler defeated Terry Funk ... Adrian Street beat Jimmy Valiant ... D.C. Drake pinned Rockin' Rebel ... Austin Idol & Al Perez battled Kevin Von Erich & Chris Adams to a double-countout ... Mr. Sandman pinned J.T. Smith ... Tony Stetson pinned Johnny Hot Body.



Matt Brock's **PLAIN SPEAKING**

MEMPHIS, TN: The news from the birthplace of wrestling violence is that parking lot brawls now involve actually getting into a car and trying to run down your opponent. To me, that's not a match getting out of hand—it's attempted homicide. The most amazing part of the whole deal was that Jerry Lawler only ended up with a few bruises and Eddie Gilbert wasn't tossed into jail and fed in small chunks to a lawyer. It all started when USWA promoter Eddie Marlin fired Gilbert and escorted him out of the studio. That was a good idea. Things just happened to blow up on Marlin when Doug Gilbert and Lawler got involved. Folks, we're lucky an innocent bystander didn't get hurt when E. Gilbert came at J. Lawler with that car. And now we're here to discuss whether this whole wrestling violence thing has gone too far. Yeah, it's a career for yours truly and, yeah, it's a career for the Gilberts and the Lawlers. But at the heart of the matter, wrestling is a game; not exactly a kids' game, but a game nonetheless. It's not life and death. Unfortunately, Eddie Gilbert tried to make it that way. My advice to the next promotion that signs Gilbert to a contract: Make sure he uses public transportation.

ATLANTA, GA: Doom vs. The Four Horsemen is one of those feuds that brings me back to those days when steel chairs were a part of every wrestler's ring attire. Yeah, it's a mismatch (Four Horsemen are actually five, including manager Ole Anderson, and Doom is only three, including that pipsqueak Teddy Long), but something tells me it's not going to matter. There are ways of evening up these things, and I'm sure Ron Simmons, Butch Reed, and Long will come up with a couple. Now, you might say, "Only two Horsemen will be allowed to wrestle at one time," and I say, "Check your Horsemen history books." Ric Flair is so mad at Doom that he'll do anything to get their NWA World tag team title. Reed, Simmons, and Long, meanwhile, feel they've been slighted. "We're the champs, and all anybody talks about is the Horsemen," Reed complained to me. Well, I told



DOOM & TEDDY LONG

him, just like I told you, to check his history books. As long as the Horsemen are in the NWA, they'll be on top. Especially since a lot of people (and don't include me in this pile) still don't respect Doom. It's war time in the NWA, and the Horsemen, as always, are back in the middle of the action.

WARWICK, RI: Never, but never, did I expect Dusty Rhodes to get tied up in a love interest and then lose his cool over it. And never, but never, would I have thought that the love interest would be Sapphire, a pudgy little woman who looks like any one of a million short-order cooks I've run into at roadside diners. So what if Sapphire sold out to Ted DiBiase? Big deal! Rhodes has always been a man's man, and man's men don't let their personal lives affect their professional lives. Rhodes has been absolutely terrible since DiBiase did the dirty deed of buying Sapphire (and let's give Sapphire her fair share of credit for this one, too), but there are no excuses in this sport. You know, Rhodes was always the one that made fun of Flair when he brought his women to the ring. Rhodes was always the one willing to put his life on the line for even the smallest price. The fact that such a hardheaded, determined man could give in to so little is

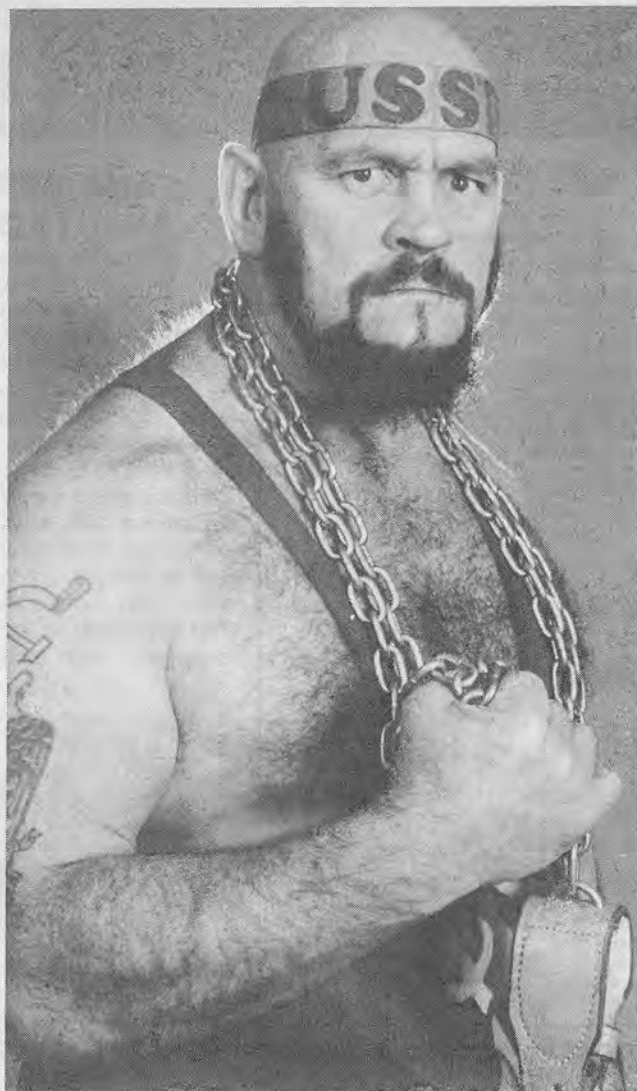
Harder than nails, veteran wrestling reporter Matt Brock has logged more miles covering wrestling than any other journalist. Every month Matt will travel to the sport's hotbeds, reporting everything he sees without fear or favor



DUSTY RHODES & SAPPHIRE

absolutely ridiculous. Maybe we should blame it all on the WWF. Maybe this circus federation has done a number on Rhodes' head. Or maybe Rhodes put so much trust in Sapphire, he just couldn't deal with it when she sold out. Well, here's my message to you, "Dream:" Forget the girl. She's obviously no good. She's short and ugly and she was using you all along. As for DiBiase, well, those who *can* wrestle. Those who *can't* go shopping.

GRAY, TN: Never has a town been more appropriately named. Although tonight, it should be called Red, Tennessee. Ivan Koloff is in town, and the years haven't changed this commie madman. Listen, I have a lot of respect for Koloff because he sticks to his scruples, but someone should tell him that the Cold War is over and the commies lost. That's right, L-O-S-T! Red Square is the home of losers. *Pravda* ain't good enough for wrapping fish. If Gorby were in the NFL, he'd have been fired long ago. Koloff, meanwhile, goes on like there's actually



IVAN KOLOFF

something to be won. He's like one of those Japanese soldiers you used to find up in a tree on a tiny Pacific island 20 years after WWII was long over. Take this, Ivan: The Russians and the good ol' U.S. of A. are joining forces in the Middle East. The Berlin Wall is gone. So what does Ivan say? "Stupid Americans do not know of power of great Soviet Union." Well, it says something about Ivan that he's no longer taking his message to the great big American cities, like New York, Los Angeles, Boston, Atlanta, and Chicago. Spreading the commie message has become a minor-league sport. □

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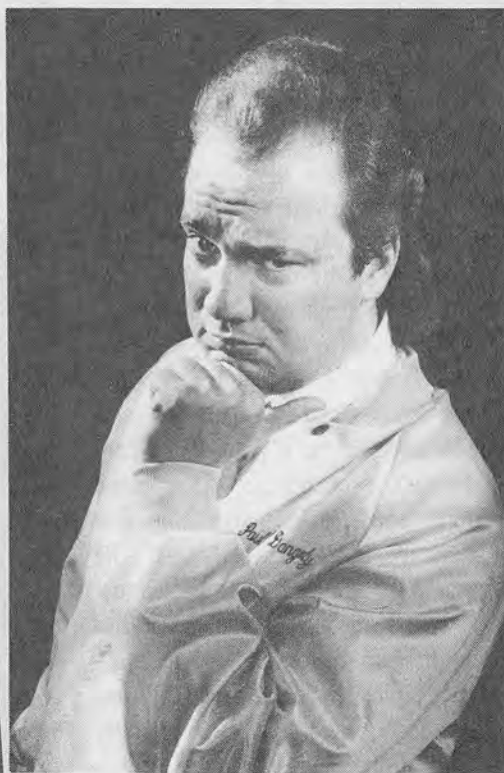
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PAUL E. DANGEROUSLY:

WHY THE "YOUNG GENIUS" HAS FLUNKED AS A MANAGER

He burst upon the wrestling scene, fresh, vibrant, witty, and ready to control the world. But Paul E. Dangerously has fallen short of his goal. He's a managerial flop



Paul E. Dangerously usually exudes an air of self-confidence (above), but after Mark Callous turned against him (left) and left his stable, many people are wondering whether that confidence can be justified.

By Craig Peters

THE ROAD TO hell is paved with first impressions. So it was with Paul E. Dangerously, who thundered upon the wrestling scene several years ago and appeared ready to rewrite the book on managing.

He was witty, irreverent, obnoxious, scheming, and dangerous at the same time. Toting a phone in one hand and

the power over a lethal stable in the other, Dangerously promised to purge the CWA, maul the AWA, and bury the NWA.

He had the tools. He had the ability. He had the men.

He was destined to make millions. He was destined to become the new "Manager Of Champions."

But Paul E. Dangerously has failed the test of time. The first impression of

Dangerously was dangerously wrong: Disarming him was easy as can be.

"He's turned out to be all talk and very little action," NWA commentator Jim Ross said. "Paul E. Dangerously talks a good game, but once it's time for action, once things start getting really tough, he heads for the hills."

Dangerously vowed to turn the Samoan Swat Team into NWA World tag team champions. He failed.

Dangerously vowed to be the driving force behind Mark Callous. Callous is gone.

"Some wrestlers just aren't capable of keeping up with me," Dangerously complained.

In reality, Dangerously can't keep up with the times. He refuses to change when the situation warrants change. Paul E. has a straight-ahead agenda that often runs into brick walls.

"He's always asked for trouble," said Jerry Lawler, who feuded with Dangerously several years ago in the CWA. "He talks a good game but he doesn't have anything to back it up. Then he enrages his own wrestlers so much, everyone's against him. In my mind, it's a losing formula."

Dangerously is loud and outspoken, but he doesn't back up his words. He gets his wrestlers into impossible situations and leaves them to foot the bill.

"That's what he did with me," recalled Tommy Rich, who wrestled under Dangerously in the CWA. "He got me and Austin Idol involved in that scaffold match against Lawler and [Bill] Dundee in the CWA. Well, Idol and I didn't want any part of it 'cause we don't consider that wrestling. But Dangerously had already signed the contract. He never once consulted us. That's when we decided that after that match, he was history."

But despite his constant failures, Dangerously always seems to recover and find another wrestler on which to test his philosophies. The point, however, is that despite repeated failures, Dangerously's philosophy of managing hasn't changed.

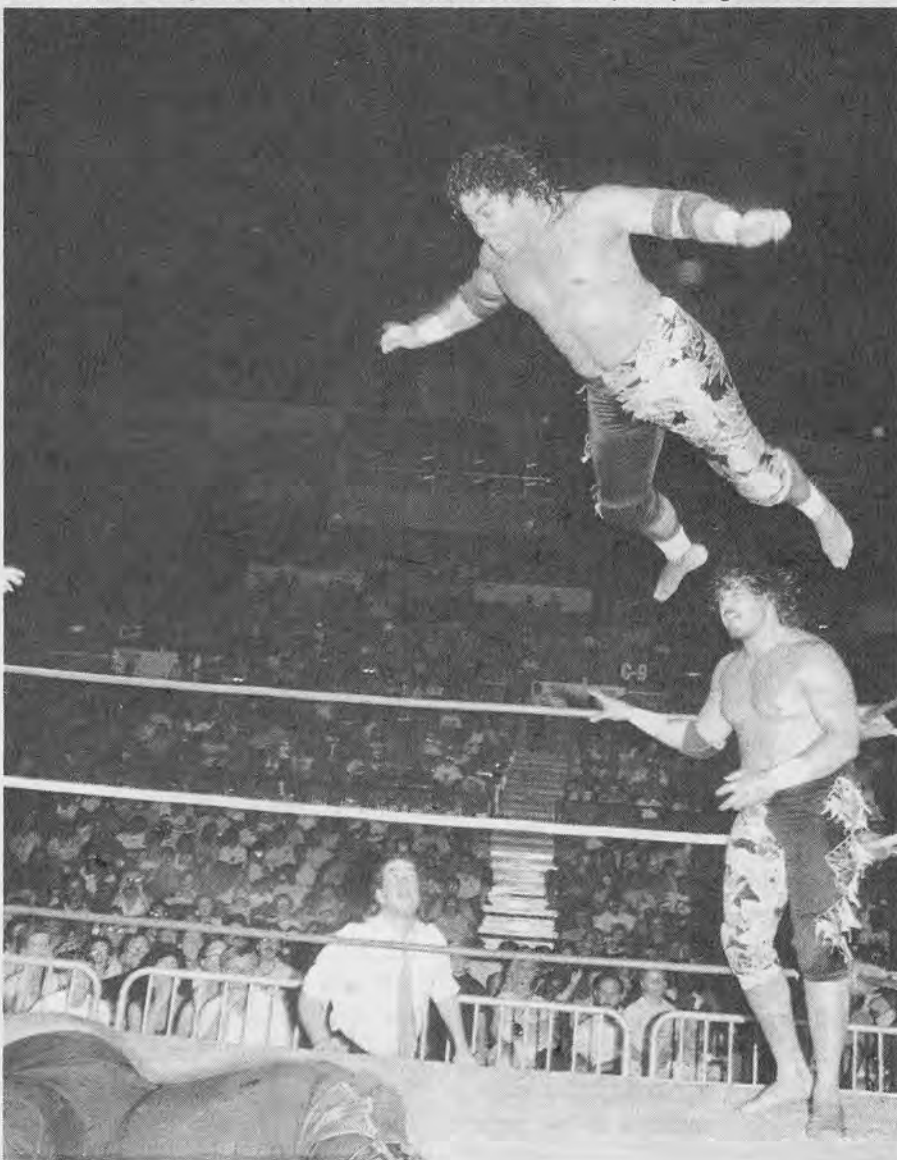
"I'm not really sure what his philosophy is," said Jim Cornette, 1985's Manager of the Year. "Usually, he'll pick an enemy, engineer a surprise attack, and then take it from there. He doesn't seem to look ahead very far."

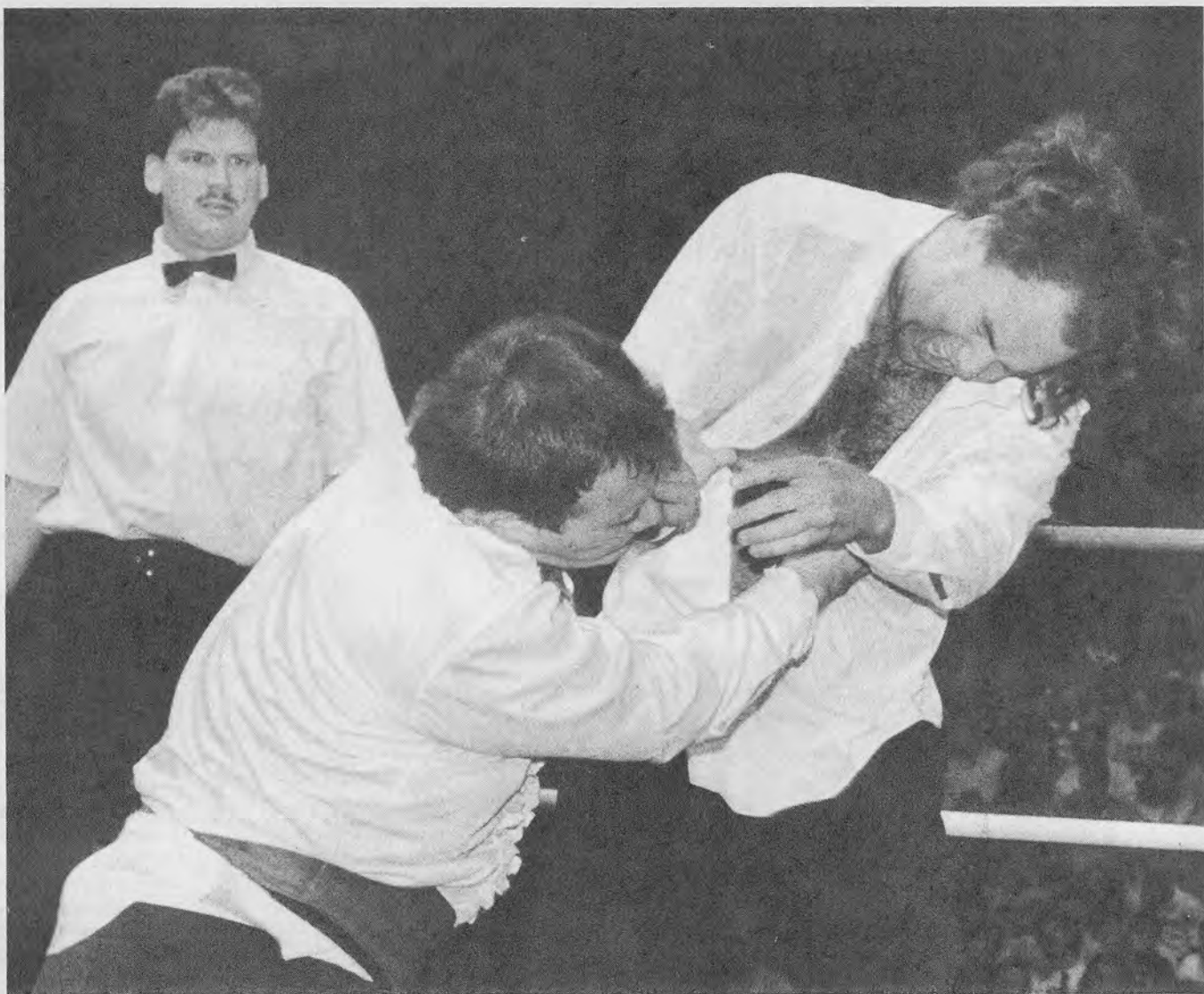
Not surprisingly, Dangerously blames his failures on the shortcomings of his wrestlers. He takes none of the blame for the Samoan Swat Team's failure to win the tag belts. Paul E. finds himself not guilty.

"I gave them the game plan but

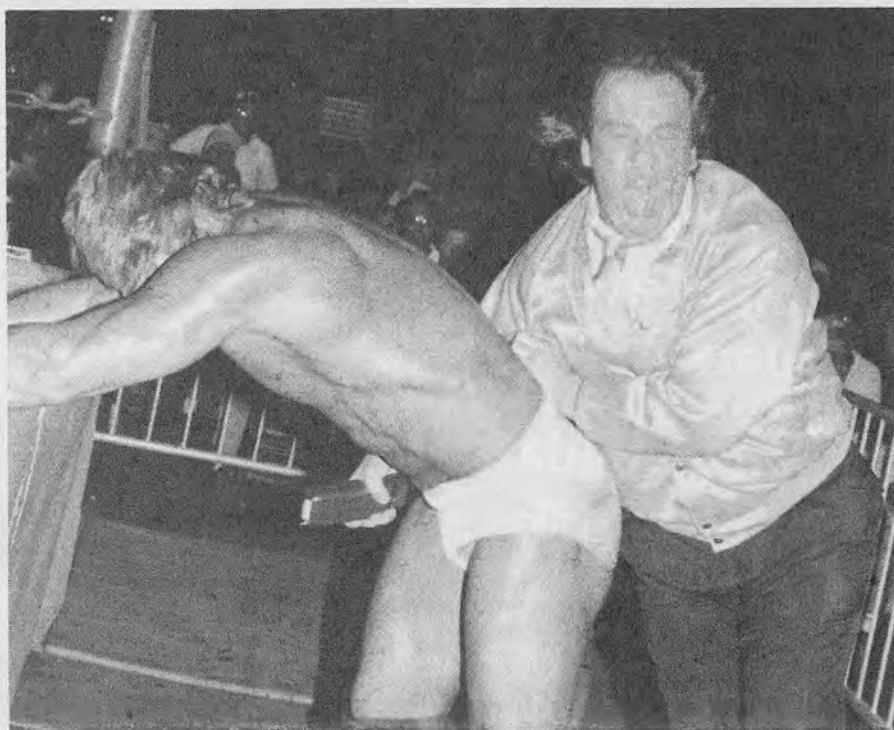


Paul E. helped engineer the feud in which Jerry Lawler got his head shaved (above), but he never fulfilled his promise to lead the Samoan Swat Team (below) to greatness.





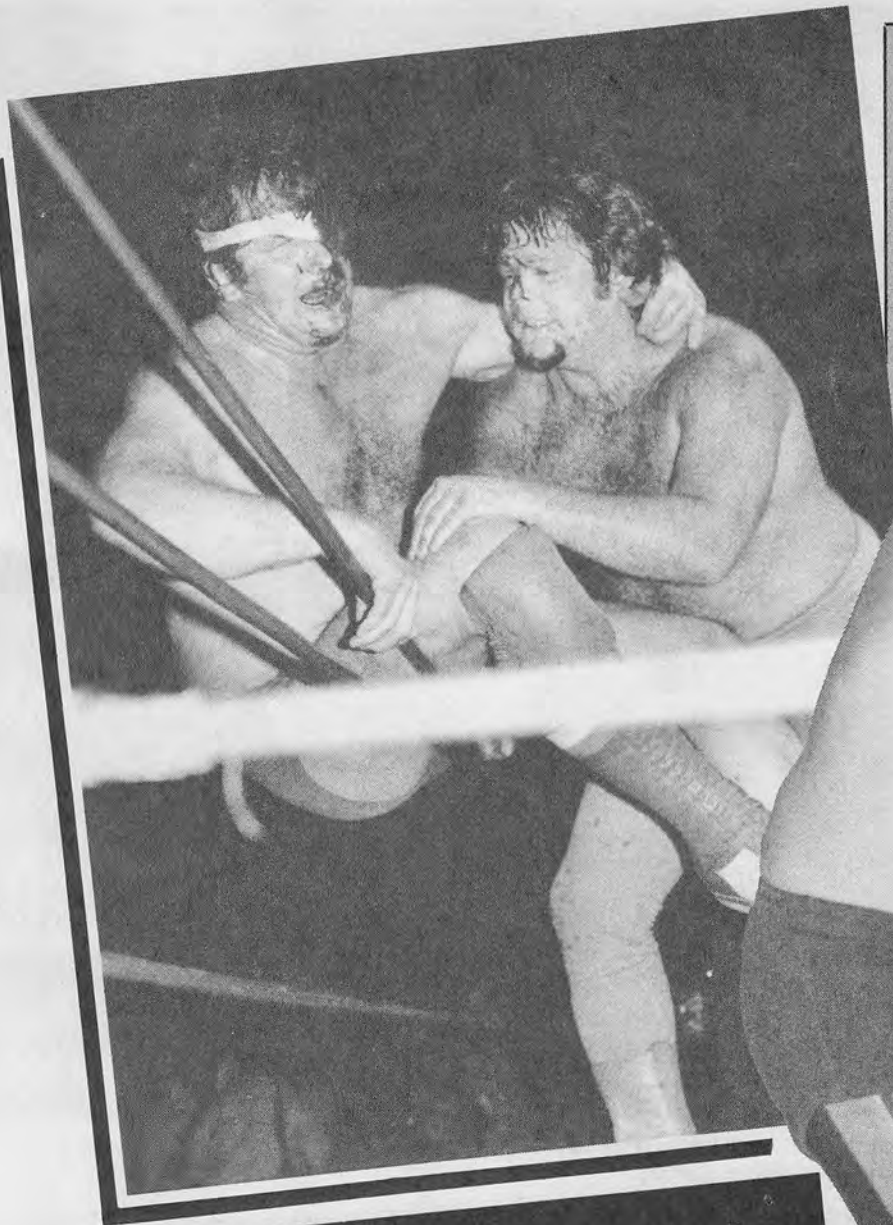
As a wrestler, Dangerously hasn't even done well against Jim Cornette (above). Paul E. tried, but he couldn't stop Lex Luger from beating Callous (below).



they couldn't carry it out," Dangerously said. "Is that my problem? Is it my problem that they couldn't think for themselves? Of course not. But I get the blame because I'm the front man. That's the way it is in all sports: Blame the manager!"

In this case, the blame is well-placed. Dangerously spends too much time promoting himself at the expense of his wrestlers. He fails to realize that he can only succeed if his wrestlers succeed.

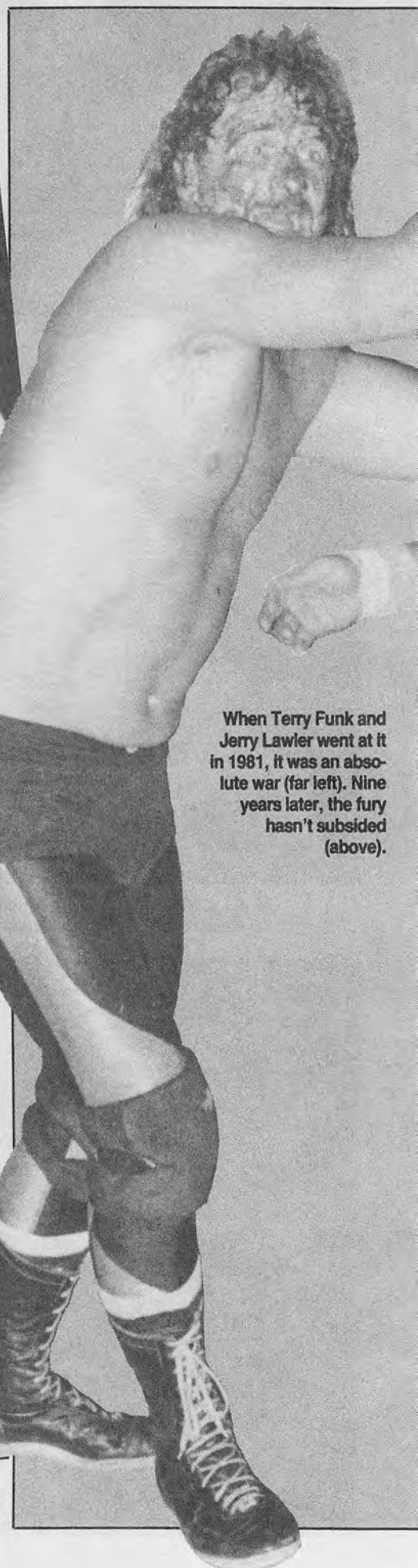
That is perhaps his most severe shortcoming. Dangerously is hypnotized by the stare of the camera. He loves publicity. As host of his "Danger Zone" segment on NWA telecasts, he'd rather listen to himself talk than interview his guests. Paul E. Dangerously
(Continued on page 62)



When Terry Funk and Jerry Lawler went at it in 1981, it was an absolute war (far left). Nine years later, the fury hasn't subsided (above).

Give Tri-State President Joel Goodhart credit: He has a good memory. He didn't forget how much Jerry Lawler and Terry Funk hated each other—and neither did the wrestlers. When Goodhart arranged Lawler and Funk's reunion in Philadelphia, nine years of built-up anger erupted in violent fury!

Photos by Al Bello & Bill Apter



Jerry Lawler vs. Terry Funk:



A BLOODY EXPLOSION OF PENT-UP HATRED

By Matt Brock

THE CONTRACT CAME in the mail, delivered in a plain brown envelope by the neighborhood postman who couldn't have known what he had in his hands. There are federal laws against mailing explosives and firearms; what Mr. Postman brought to Jerry Lawler in mid-August was positively lethal.

"I opened up the envelope, took out the contract, and just stared at it for about an hour," Lawler recalled. "All the old memories starting coming back, and then I felt hatred like I hadn't felt in—well, in years."

Nine years, perhaps?

"Nine years," said Terry Funk,

who—on the same day but hundreds of miles away—received a similar contract. "It had been nine years since I'd gotten my hands on Lawler. I don't know what those Tri-State people had in mind, but I like their thinking."

The contract, quite simply, was for Jerry Lawler to wrestle Terry Funk in the main event of the Tri-State Wrestling Association's "Autumn Armageddon '90" card at Philadelphia Civic Center's Pennsylvania Hall annex.

Did we hear someone say "armageddon"?

"We knew what could happen," said Tri-State President Joel

Goodhart. "We knew what kind of violence we were setting ourselves up for. We loved the idea."

Yeah, 'cause let's face it: There's grace and style in professional wrestling, but there's nothing like a blood-spilling brawl to fill seats and get the heart rushing.

Funk vs. Lawler clearly filled the bill.

But that wasn't enough. One gets the idea that these Tri-State people wouldn't even be satisfied with Hussein vs. Bush in a steel cage; they'd throw in Khadafy and Gorby for good measure.

Funk brought along former WWF contender Bulldog Brower and USWA sadist Eddie Gilbert. Lawler brought along independent legend Austin Idol.

Both men were well-prepared for anything his rival could offer.

Lawler, of course, had a slight advantage. He has remained active since 1981, while Funk has drifted in and out of the sport. His prolonged 1989 war with Ric Flair clearly took a lot out of him. Funk, however, seemed revitalized when he showed up in Philadelphia.

"Great city," Funk said. "I've had some of my greatest victories here."

Lawler, who has spent most of his career in the southern U.S., was practically a stranger to the Philadelphia fans. Still, he clearly had the crowd's support as he made his way to the ring.

That didn't change. But before long, the fans didn't know who they were rooting for or what they were watching. It was a war, a brawl, a street fight ... it was armageddon.

"When I saw Brower with Funk, I knew I was in for some trouble," Lawler said.

Brower stood at ringside holding Funk's branding iron. He got to use it, too, but we'll get to that later.

First, there were chairs. And a press table. And the cornerposts, the arena floor, and every conceivable weapon that wasn't nailed



An afternoon of violent action: Lawler corrals Funk outside the ring (top) and uses the ringpost to do greater damage (above). Funk piledrives "The King" (right). Austin Idol, seconding Lawler, goes after Funk with a branding iron (below).





After the match, Funk and Eddie Gilbert gloat over the harm—both real and imagined—that they did Lawler (above). Funk says it was just like old times (below).



down. Funk and Lawler wasted no time on introductions; they didn't bother catching up on lost time. They simply picked up where they left off.

Lawler smashed Funk with a

chair. Funk flew over the guard rail and into the crowd. Lawler went after Funk and smashed his head into the ring barrier. Funk was bloodied, but he wasn't beaten.

He had Brower to thank for that.

When Lawler tried to return to the ring, Brower smashed him with the branding iron. When Funk recovered, he stomped Lawler and had several near-pins. Funk was incensed and argued with the referee.

That ended the official match portion of the main event. Funk shoved the ref out of the ring and was disqualified. He wasn't finished. Funk piledrived the ref on the cement floor, then piledrived a second ref, too.

"I realized right then that Funk was crazier than ever," Lawler said. "I couldn't believe what he was doing."

Funk then went after Lawler with the branding iron and, with Eddie Gilbert acting as ref, went for another pin. Gilbert made the count, but Lawler kicked out. He kicked out four more times before Idol came to his rescue.

"I knew it didn't matter because Funk had already been disqualified, but it was a matter of pride," Lawler said. "No way was Funk gonna pin me."

Idol's appearance set off a 10-minute, four-way battle. The battle was carried to the dressing room, where chairs were thrown and heads were bashed into lockers.

"It was the most amazing thing I'd ever seen," said Kevin Von Erich, who also wrestled on the star-studded card. "Put it this way: Abdullah the Butcher was disgusted!"

Not surprisingly, Funk wasn't satisfied. He vowed to go to Memphis to help Gilbert in his war with Lawler. Lawler welcomed the challenge.

"He couldn't beat me on neutral turf, so how's he gonna do it in my hometown?" Lawler said. "I'm ready for anything Funk's got. Wrestling him got my juices flowing again."

"Let him talk," Funk said, "but he's asking for trouble. Nine years hasn't changed a thing. He's still the skunk he used to be." □

**WARNING
TO THE
ULTIMATE
WARRIOR**

Photos by David Fitzgerald

THE LEGION OF DOOM WILL LEAD YOU TO DESTRUCTION

**WWF World
champion The
Ultimate Warrior was
rolling along on the
hot streak of his life.**

**It seemed as if
nobody could stop
him. But the
Warrior's newest
allies might also be
his biggest foes.**

**Watch out, champ:
Hawk plus Animal
plus Warrior could
equal your doom!**

Is The Legion of Doom watching The Ultimate Warrior's back, or are they looking for a way to jump him?



By Andy Rodriguez

WHEN A TEAM will do anything to win, they'll also do anything to lose. When reckless abandon takes the place of a well-conceived and thoughtful game plan, the chance of defeat begins to equal the chance of victory.

That's the way it has always been for The Road Warriors, now known in the WWF as The Legion of Doom. Animal and Hawk have great power and wrestling skills. They are two of the most feared wrestlers in the game.

But they have always wrestled at full-throttle. Thus, they leave themselves open for disaster. Wrestling experts have tried to examine why a team so dominant has won only two world titles, one in the AWA and one in the NWA. A large part of the answer is that full-throttle wrestling leads to full-scale recklessness—and quick disqualifications.

Their style has become more reckless than ever since entering the WWF. The reason for that is clear, too. Without manager Paul Ellering, the Warriors have nobody to keep them on course. Ellering was a stabilizing factor. He has been left behind.

The Legion of Doom is like a runaway freight train. While destroying others, they are also capable of destroying themselves.

In most cases, their opponents have the most to fear. Now, however, WWF World champion The Ulti-



Warrior won't be able to defeat Demolition by himself; that's why Hawk and Animal are in his corner.

mate Warrior has come along for The Legion of Doom's terror ride.

He might not survive the trip.

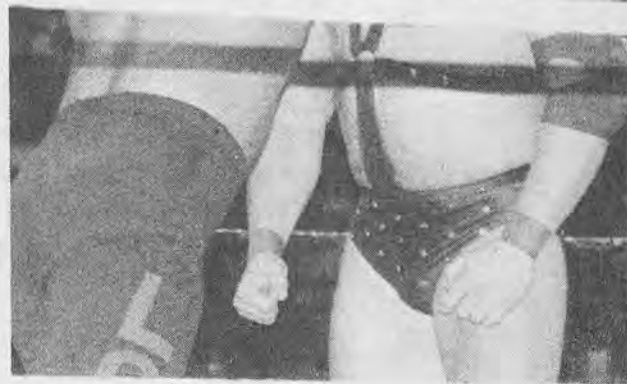
Since early September, the Warrior has teamed with Animal and Hawk in six-man tag matches against Demolition. It was also announced that the Warrior, The Le-

gion of Doom, and Kerry Von Erich would wrestle Demolition and Curt Hennig at the Survivor Series.

At first glance, these appear to be thrilling matchups that would be the main event on any card at any arena in the country. They also appear to be harmless; the Warrior has nothing to lose since his title isn't on the line.

But the Warrior has everything to lose.

"The Warrior, like the Warriors, doesn't know when to stop," WWF expert Thomas Piliard said. "He's



When Crush joined Demolition, Hawk knew that if he and Animal were to beat the Demos, they'd have to find a partner as tough as they are. Enter the Warrior.

One expert says the Warrior (right) is at his best when he's under control. The Legion of Doom, on the other hand, likes it best when things are out of control.



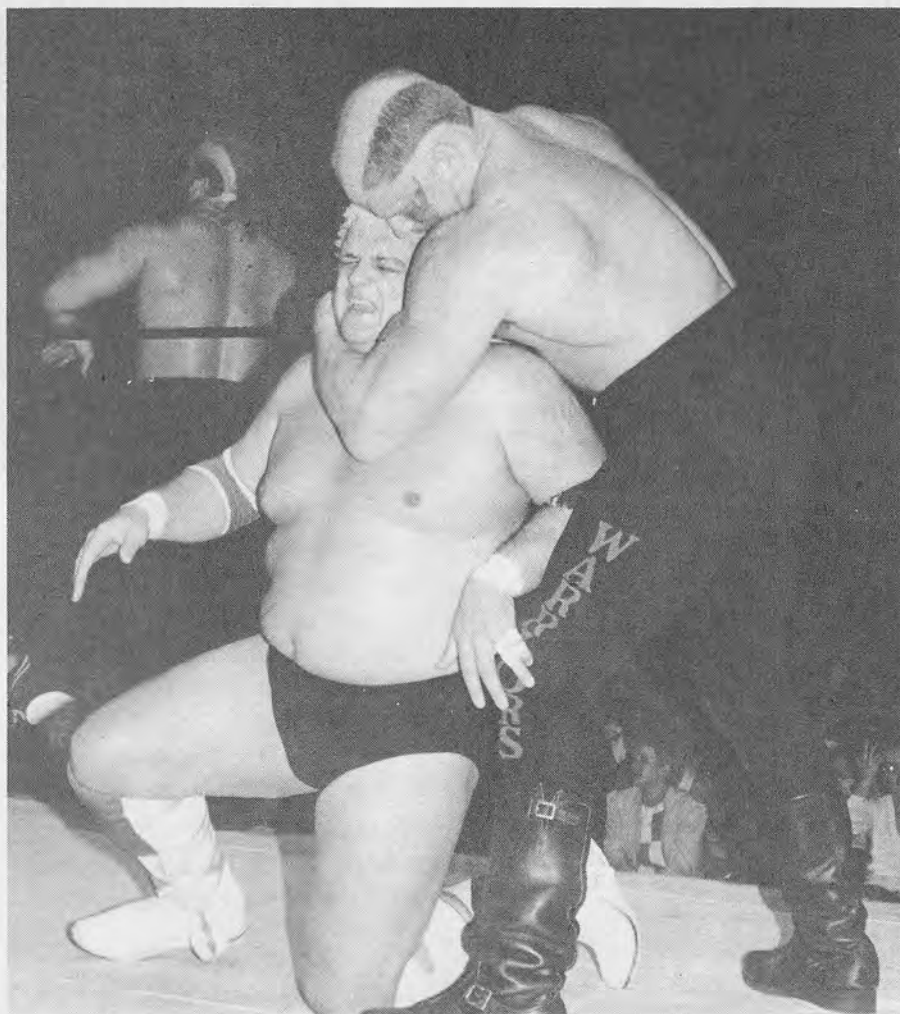
really an unstoppable machine. When he gets out of control, it's trouble. With the Warriors, it's going to get even worse.

"The way I see it, the Warrior is going to leave himself open for tremendous harm," Piliard continued. "A man like the Warrior can easily get caught up in Animal and Hawk's craziness. The Warrior is best when under control. But as it stands now, he could be headed for big trouble."

Just a few years ago in the NWA, Hawk and Animal teamed with



Dusty Rhodes is among the wrestlers who have befriended Hawk and Animal (above), only to become a victim of their wrath (below). The Warrior can learn a lot from Dusty's experience ... if he so chooses.



Dusty Rhodes and Lex Luger in numerous steel cage matches against The Four Horsemen. Rhodes, caught up in the heat of the feud (heat generated by Hawk and Animal), suffered several serious injuries, and came close to career-ending tragedy on a few occasions.

"Remember when Dusty got into the ring and challenged Hawk and Animal all by himself?" recalled one NWA wrestler. "Well, that was a direct result of that feud. When all was said and done, Dusty and the Warriors were on opposite sides, and Dusty was the maddest man of all."

It nearly destroyed his career. In fact, Rhodes was soon gone from the NWA and, it appeared, headed for retirement. Dusty landed in Florida, where he managed to get back on track. Now he's a productive wrestler in the WWF.

Hawk and Animal have a way of making a wrestler forget what he wants in life. They put titles second and violence first. The feud's the thing. A championship is only an occasional byproduct of a feud.

Even worse, The Ultimate Warrior is getting sidetracked at a time



On this occasion, Smash and Crush aren't after Warrior's World title; they're just looking to deal out some punishment (left).

The Warrior, Hawk, and Animal may be friends now (below), but that could all change very quickly.

when his singles career is going better than ever. The Warrior has been incredibly dominant since winning the title from Hulk Hogan at WrestleMania VI. He destroyed Rick Rude at SummerSlam '90. He easily held off the challenge of Curt Hennig.

He's on an incredible roll.

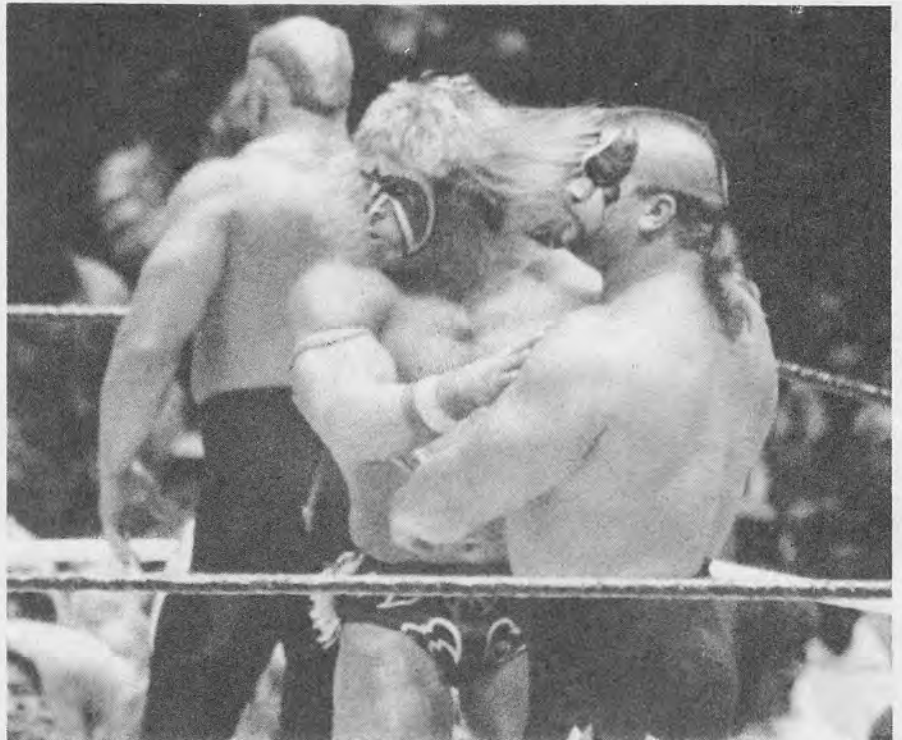
Why would he want to halt his own momentum?

Why would he want to get involved in such a dangerous feud when he's trying to defend the title?

Indeed, the Warrior has absolutely nothing to gain by teaming with The Legion of Doom. Sure, this alliance is one of the most powerful of all time. Throw Von Erich into the equation and you have a quartet of veritable supermen. Can Demolition and Hennig handle this awesome foursome? Probably not.

But who really cares?

Hawk and Animal, again, have reduced the sport to pure violence. They have taken the sport out of the sport.



The Warrior, who has finally programmed himself for decency, levelheadedness, and a solid game plan, has eradicated that game plan.

Somebody could well be the World title benefactor. It might be

Hennig or it could be Rude. It might even be Hogan.

There's danger where The Ultimate Warrior is roaming. He has entered a mine field.

He might not come out of it in one piece.

□

SPECIAL

By Dave Rosenbaum

RICK AND SCOTT Steiner ... who's the brains of this family?

"Me," Scott is quick to reply.

"Him," Rick said while pointing toward Scott.

Now that we got that out of the

way ... who's the better wrestler?

"Him," Scott said while pointing toward Rick.

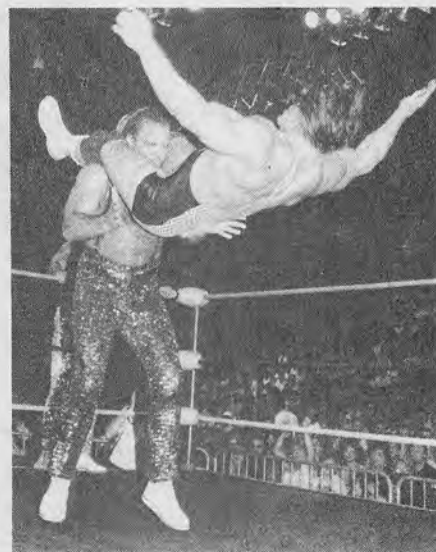
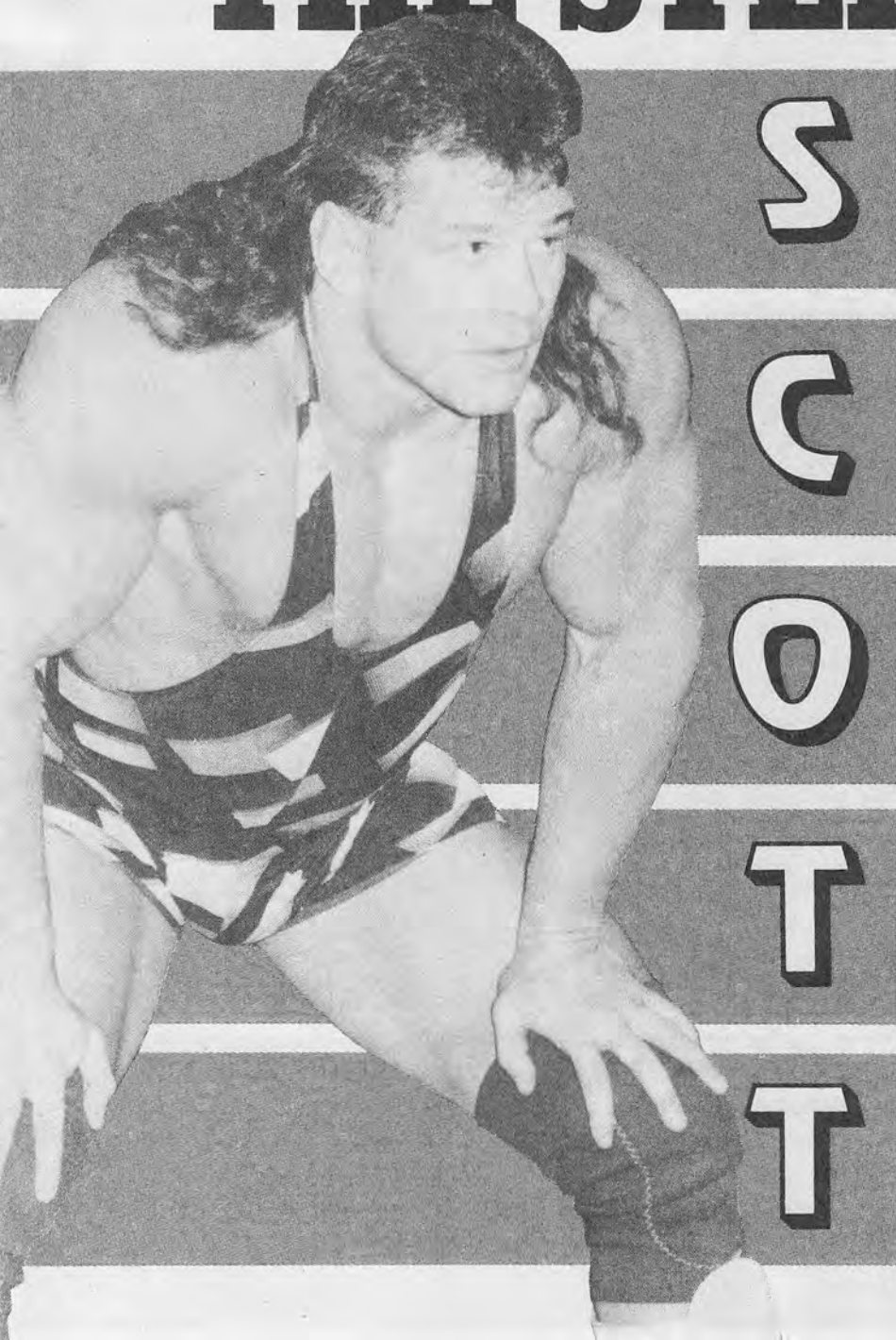
"Him," Rick said while pointing toward Scott.

So now you know why we didn't call this story: "Rick Or Scott Steiner—Who's *Smarter?*" That really isn't in doubt. When

brains were passed out, Rick Steiner was working out.

But the Steiner family was blessed with wrestling ability and there's more than enough to go around (there's plenty of humility, too). Rick and Scott Steiner, the reigning NWA U.S. tag team champions, are two of the finest

THE STEINERS:



Scott's "Frankensteiner" (above, executed on Michael Hayes) is a devastating maneuver, and a lot of fun to watch. Hayes is also victimized by Scott's excellent double underhook suplex (below).



ANALYSIS

wrestlers in the sport. They'd be successful anywhere they went.

What if they wrestled each other?

"It's happened," Scott said. "Back when we were kids, we'd get down on the mat in gym and wrestle all the time. Of course, that's not the same."

"Yeah," Rick agreed. "This stuff is a little rougher."

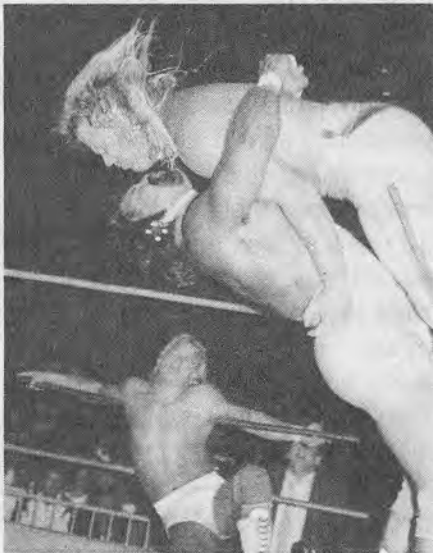
A little rougher, a little more demanding, and, of course, a little later in life. Things have changed, their sports have changed, their abilities have changed.

And yet, Rick Steiner vs. Scott Steiner is still one of the most

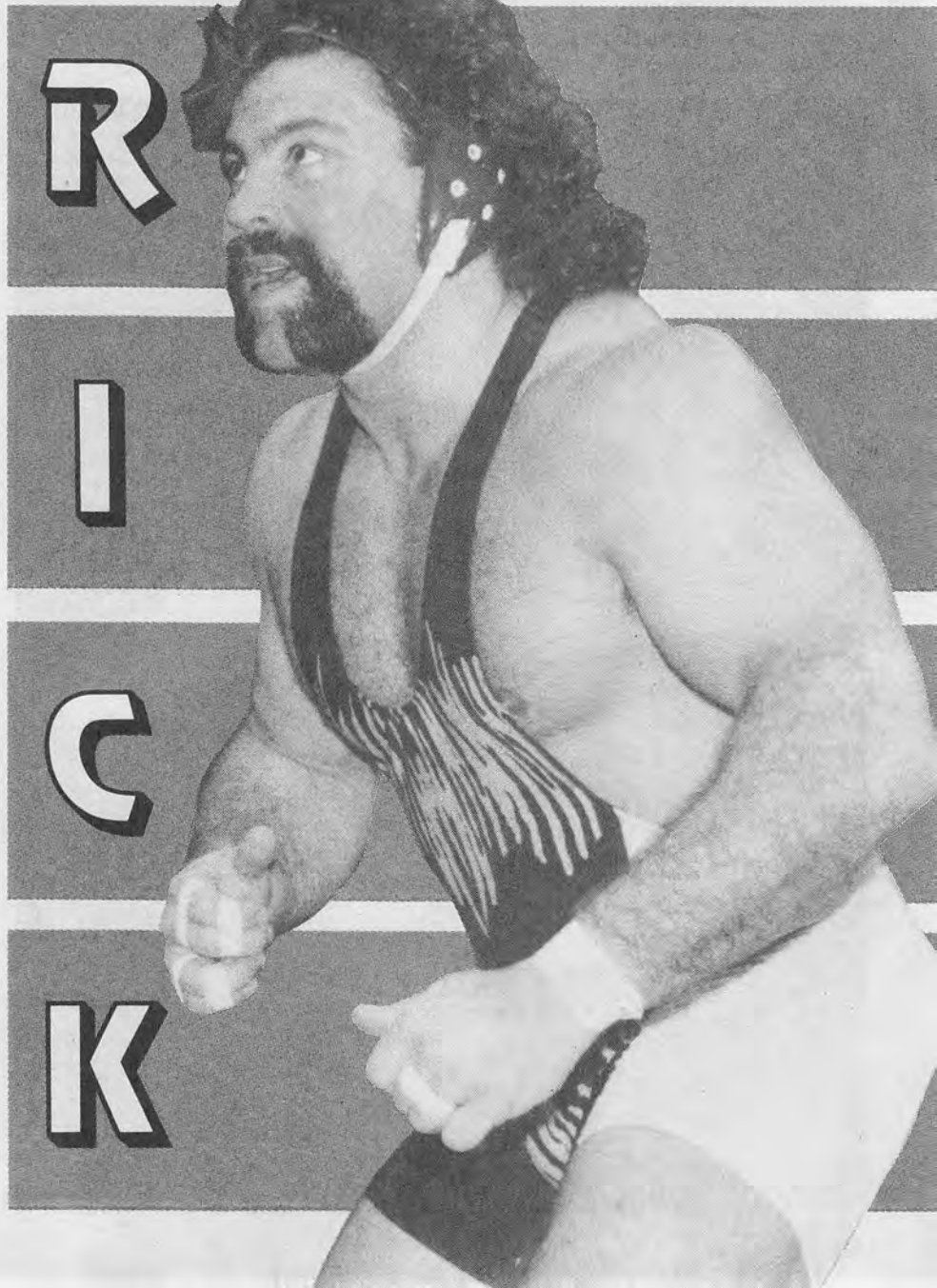
fascinating dream matchups in the sport.

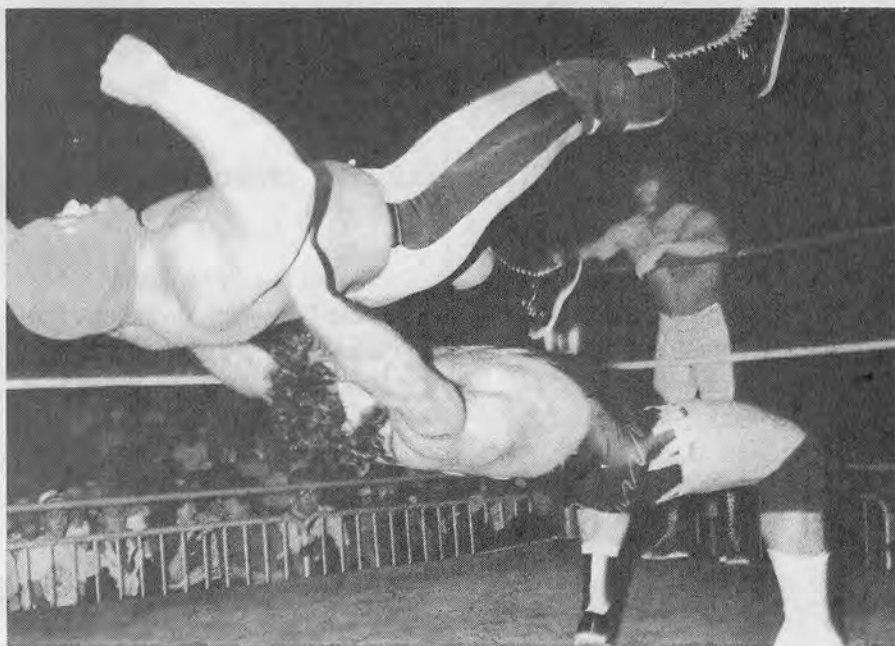
Scott has the "Frankensteiner," a devastating flip dropkick that has been copied by numerous wrestlers. As would be expected, the imitations are nothing like the original.

WHO IS BETTER?



Rick is a master of the belly-to-belly suplex (above, against Bobby Eaton) and the "Steinerline" clothesline, which clobbers Butch Reed (below). Scott also uses the Steinerline effectively.





Rick executes a German suplex on Minnesota Wrecking Crew II (above). Scott uses a fireman's carry takedown on Eaton (below). As amateur wrestlers at the University of Michigan, both Steiners were well-schooled in the basics.



"Imitation is the highest form of flattery," Scott boasted, "but these clowns aren't even coming close."

Rick has the "Steinerline" clothesline. Scott uses it, too—brothers are allowed to share—but it's not nearly as effective as Rick's.

"I perfected it," Rick gloated.

But it's in the suplex department that the Steiners really shine. Rick's belly-to-back suplex is positively devastating. Scott, too, has a wide selection of suplexes.

"He keeps 'em in his closet, all nice and tidy," Rick cracked.

Ah, brothers!

Now about those suplexes . . .

"They just come up with one variation after another," Lex Luger said. "It's incredible the imaginations these guys have. But if I were to pick one over the other, I'd say Scott has the edge. He's just done so much with this move, and an opponent never really knows what's coming next. I've never seen anything like his 'tilt-a-whirl' suplex."

That stunning move reminds one of a death-defying carnival ride. The victim is entirely flipped over and slammed to the mat.

"It doesn't tickle," said Reno Riggins, a tilt-a-whirl victim. "It's enough to make you lose your lunch."

What sets the Steiners apart is their tremendous knowledge of the sport. Both wrestled at the University of Michigan. Both were outstanding amateurs.

In this department, Scott has a slight edge. While Rick was very successful at Michigan, he couldn't match Scott's achievements. Scott was an all-America and one of the greatest wrestlers that school has ever seen.

"It's probably the thing I'm most proud of," Scott said.

Nonetheless, many great ama-



Rick powerslams Reed (above left). Scott hiptosses Eaton (above right). Rick and Scott possess the kind of speed, strength, and agility other wrestlers envy. If the brothers ever do wrestle each other, it would be an extremely close match.

teur wrestlers have not matched their success in the ring. That's certainly true of Scott, a fine pro without the trophy case to match his abilities. Although he is ranked 10th in the NWA ratings (Rick is currently unranked), he has yet to break through with a major title.

The same is true of Rick Steiner, who has held the NWA TV title but nothing better. But Rick has received shots at the NWA World title—and performed brilliantly at times—while Scott has never been considered in that category.

Both are quick and powerful. "I think Rick is stronger and Scott is

faster," Sting said. "Scott is more powerful but he doesn't harness his energy like Rick does. Rick knows how to use his power."

Both men have their shortcomings. Their shortcomings, in fact, are similar. They often lose control of a match when seemingly in control. They lack direction. They care too much for each other.

"Whaddya expect?" Scott complained. "He's my brother."

Indeed, but in this sport, blood relationships often must be forgotten. The dangers of the ring demand it.

Rick, because of his lack of in-

telligence, often goes into matches without a game plan. Scott is smarter and seems to have sounder strategies. If Scott and Rick ever meet in the ring, this could be the deciding factor. Brains, as Ric Flair proved, are often enough.

Although Rick is the more accomplished wrestler, Scott is rising rapidly. Smarts, suplexes, and speed would be enough to overcome Rick's clotheslines and devil-may-care attitude.

Hopefully, it will never happen. Rick vs. Scott makes for good conversation. Let's leave it at that. □

HOTSEAT

CHRIS ADAMS

"A BIT OF ME DIES WHEN JEANNIE AND TONI WRESTLE"

CHRIS ADAMS THOUGHT he had left behind the painful part of his life that included his ex-wife Jeannie. True, their marriage failed, but there are good times in every marriage. The good times remained with Chris; the bad were forgotten.

This was true even when he married his current wife, Toni. A part of his life was over, but a man can't wipe out the whole of his experiences. He left behind his former love and took on a new love, but Jeannie wouldn't let him achieve peace of mind.

We all know the tale by now. Jeannie entered the USWA scene with Steve Austin and threatened to uncover Chris' past. Toni, seeing herself and her husband threatened, took action. The Jeannie-Toni feud was born. At press time, it was still raging with no end in sight.

Who is suffering the most in this feud? Is it Jeannie, who so obviously still has the strongest of feelings for Chris? Is it Toni, who must watch while a part of her beloved husband's past returns to haunt him? Is it Chris, who must relive the memories of that failed marriage? Or is it Austin, who loves Jeannie but will always be second

in her heart?

Certainly, there's more to the Jeannie-Toni feud than meets the eye. That became apparent when Chris Adams spoke with Senior Writer Dave Rosenbaum in Dallas.

“

Unfortunately, [Jeannie's] decided to wash her dirty laundry in public, and that's brought a part of my personal life into the public eye.

”

Q: Chris, I can imagine that this whole ordeal must be very painful for you. Divorce can be very difficult, and now you're being forced to go through everything once again.

A: That's exactly how it is, Dave. You know, I love Toni more than anyone else in the entire world, and she knows that. Toni came along at a time when my life seemed to

be falling apart. She helped me put it back together. Then, when everything was fine, Jeannie resurfaced. It's been like a nightmare, Dave, a complete and total nightmare.

Q: How was your marriage to Jeannie? That's something we don't hear much about.

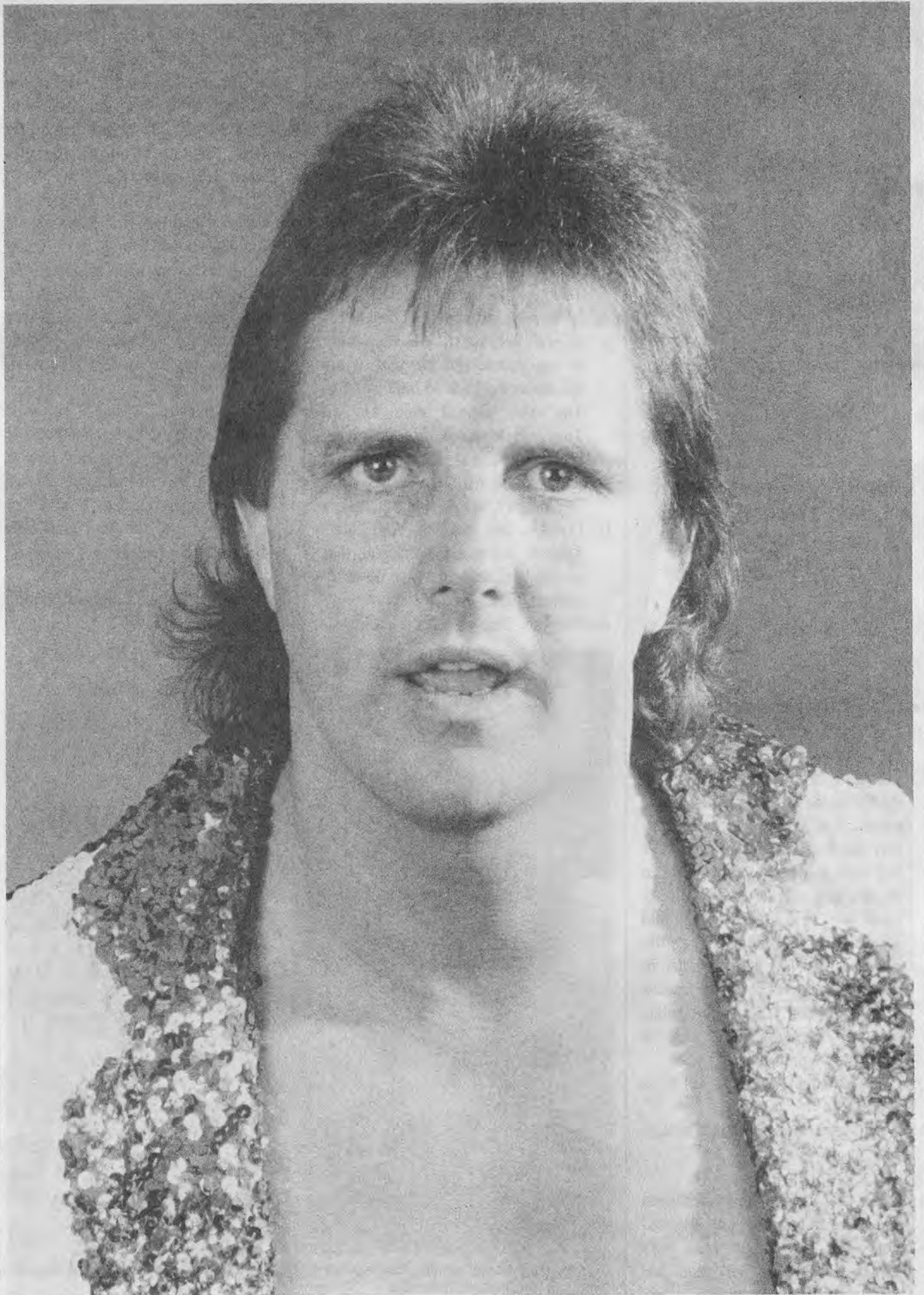
A: That's because I like to keep my personal life to myself. You know, wrestlers lead a very public life, so I cherish whatever privacy I can get. Let's just say that Jeannie and I, like all couples that get married, were very much in love at one time. But things quickly went downhill, and there was no recourse but divorce.

Q: She's hinted that you abused her. Physically, I mean.

A: Totally untrue. And if I was really an abusive husband, Toni would be going through the same thing. You know, abusive husbands can't turn it on for one wife and off for another, that's just a very simplistic expression of a very complex problem.

Q: That's very true. But who terminated the marriage?

A: That was by mutual agreement.





“

I don't want to see Jeannie get hurt. I wish she'd just pack her bags and let bygones be bygones.

”

Q: You don't want to say anything else about it?

A: Listen, I don't want to fight a marital battle in the wrestling magazines. I'm a wrestler, and that's why this is all so difficult for me. I just want to wrestle. What I do in the ring has nothing to do with my home life. That's the way it should always be. Unfortunately, she's decided to wash her dirty laundry in public, and that's brought a part of my personal life into the public eye that . . . well, that I kind of wish had remained private.

Q: I would imagine that she still loves you.

A: Well, if she does, she has a strange way of showing it.

Q: Do you still love her?

A: Listen, my feelings for her changed considerably after we got married. Let's just say I still have very strong feelings for her. You just can't turn around and hate a per-

son you used to love. Then again, you know the old saying: It's a thin line between love and hate.

Q: Do you ever ask yourself how you could have loved such a woman?

A: All the time, and that's what hurts the most. I went through that period of self-doubt once before, and now I'm going through it once again. What's worse is that Toni has to go through it again, too.

Q: This must be very difficult for Toni.

A: It is *very* difficult for her, very painful, because we love each other so very much, and this part of my life has come back to hurt us both. The other night I woke up and Toni was in the bathroom, crying her eyes out. She wants this whole thing to be over and done with. She doesn't like fighting Jeannie.

Q: Do you like it when Toni fights Jeannie? There are some men that would love to have two beautiful women fighting over them.

A: Not me. Not under these circum-

stances. As I said, we're talking about two women I loved enough to marry, and one woman that I love more than anything else in the entire world. Let me . . . you know something, Dave? To be perfectly honest, a bit of me dies when Jeannie and Toni wrestle.

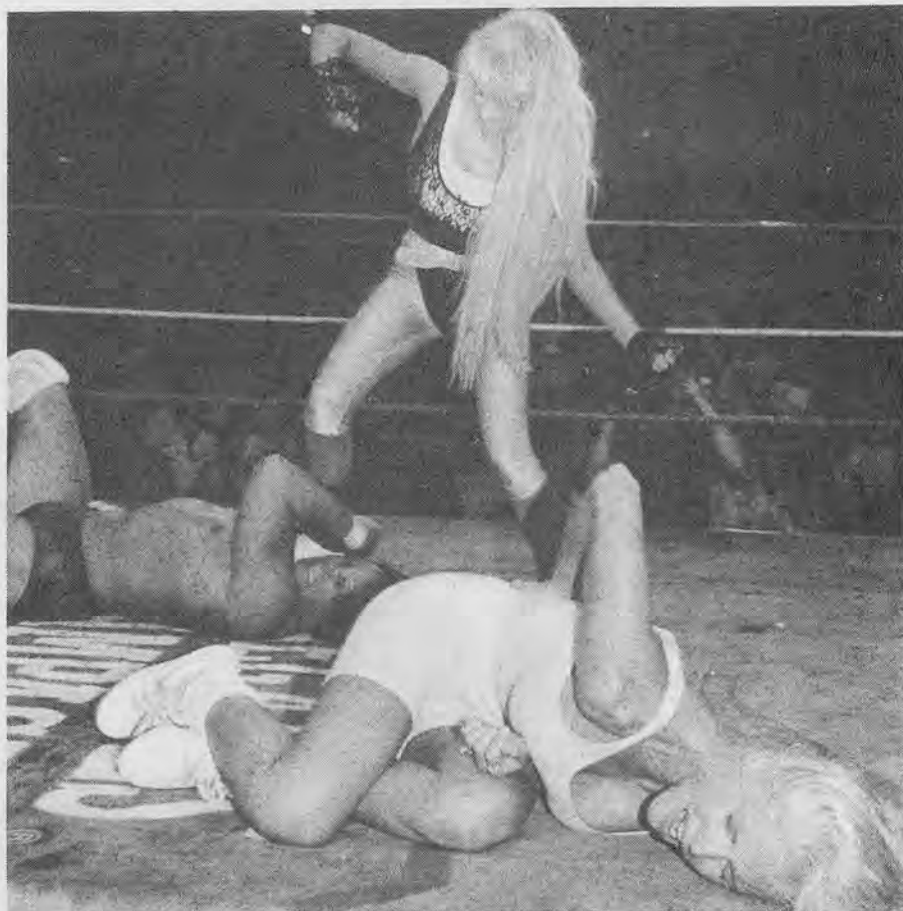
Q: You'd like to see it end, then.

A: I wish it had never started. But it's too late now. Jeannie isn't going away and Toni isn't going to give up until she goes away. You see, I am—and was!—married to a very determined woman. I think, though, that Toni has a little more moral character.

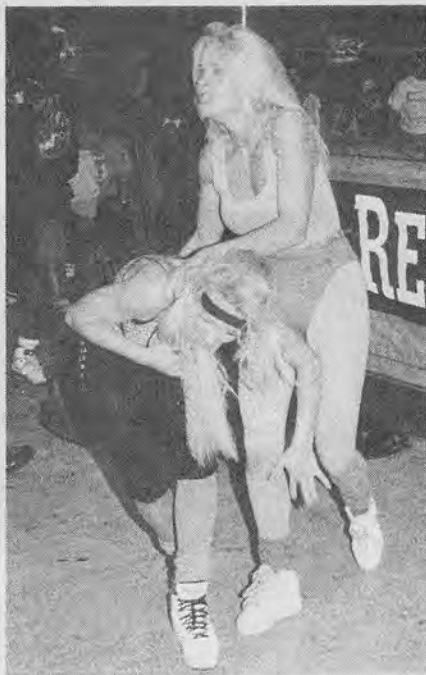
Q: That's obvious.

A: Well . . . yes, it is, but the point is that the Jeannie I'm seeing now is nothing new. I saw that part of her when we were married. Toni is just acting like she thinks a loyal wife should act. I just hope she doesn't get hurt.

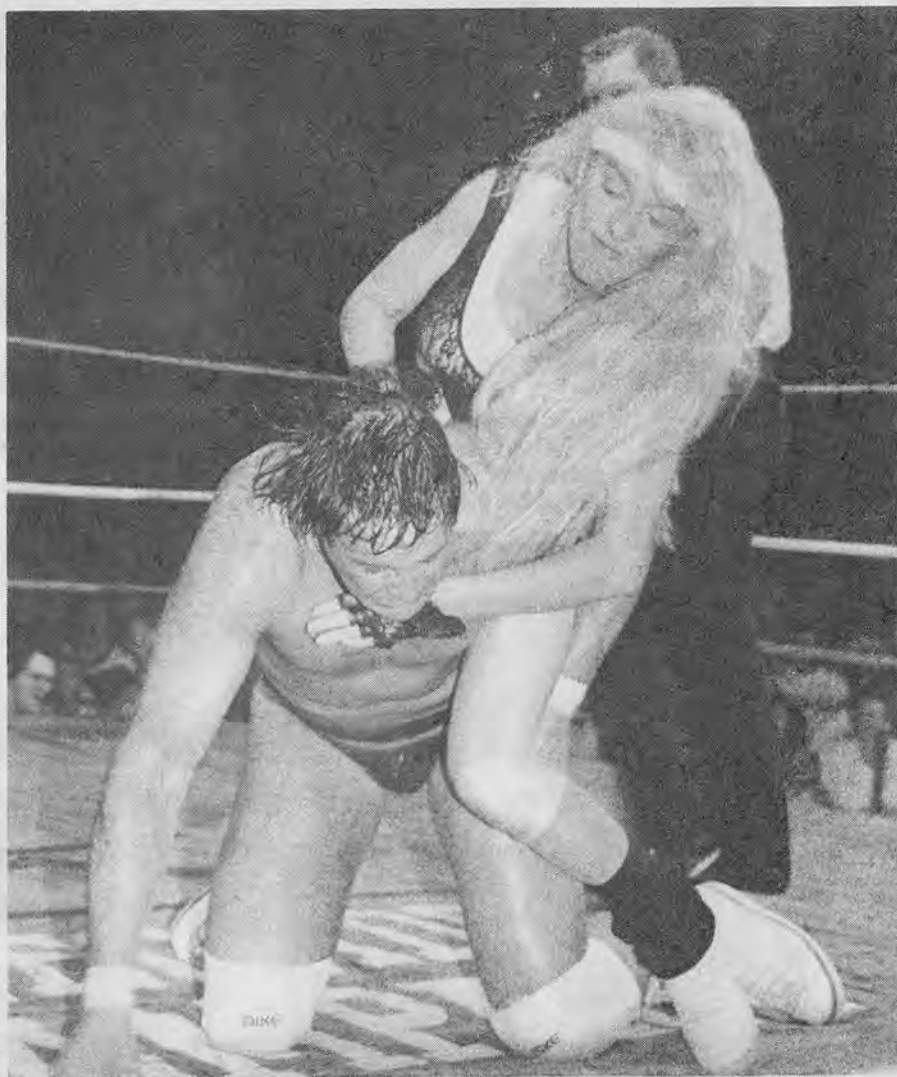
Q: I guess you hope both ladies don't get hurt.



Over the past several months, Jeannie has done everything she can to make the lives of Chris and Toni Adams miserable.



When Jeannie threatened Chris, Toni realized she would have to battle Jeannie in the ring (above). Jeannie chokes Chris (below), who wishes his ex-wife would just walk away from the whole sordid feud.



A: Well, at this point somebody's going to have to pay the price. Believe me, I don't want to see Jeannie get hurt. I wish she'd just pack her bags and let bygones be bygones. But that's not gonna happen. Besides, how would it look if I got rid of Jeannie myself?

Q: Physically? Not very good. It would just back up her claims.

A: Exactly. I could end this thing in a second, but I'd probably end up in jail. Unfortunately, this has to be Toni's job. Jeannie won't fight fair, so that's how it's gonna have to be.

Q: There shouldn't even be a fight in the first place.

A: Exactly, but it's too late for that. The milk has been spilled, no use crying about it now.

Q: Steve Austin is only a secondary part of this battle, isn't he?

A: In a lot of ways, yeah, but I



“

Jeannie isn't going to go away and Toni isn't going to give up until she goes away.

”

wouldn't mind taking care of him, too.

Q: What I mean is that if Jeannie would go away, Austin would probably go away, too.

A: I don't know about that. Our feud goes pretty deep now.

Q: But aren't there bigger fish to fry?

A: Bigger fish to fry? *(laughs)* Yeah, I guess so. But this is my fish for right now. I'm just gonna have to skin it.

Q: Before it skins you.

A: Well, I've already suffered quite a bit. You see, Dave, I can't win this war. Toni and I will go on with our lives, but I think this chapter of it won't be forgotten. That's too bad, too, because Toni and I were doing so well. Life was really great. Then Jeannie decided to come back.

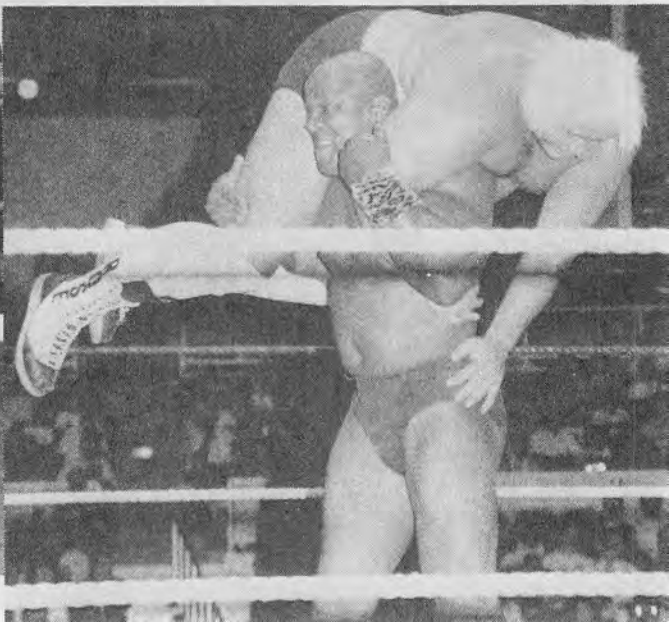
Q: A sad day in your life.

A: One of the worst. I still can't believe it. □

HOW SABA SIMBA SAVED TONY ATLAS' CAREER



In changing his name to Saba Simba, and reforging his identity (above), Tony Atlas has begun the climb up the WWF ladder with wins over men like Buddy Rose (below). In the ICW, Atlas was champ, and his rival was Vic Steamboat (left).



IS TONY ATLAS back? Or has Saba Simba arrived?

The answer is "yes" on both accounts. Yes, Tony Atlas has returned to the WWF—after spending several years as a rulebreaker in the ICW—but he comes under the alias of Saba Simba. The name is more an identity than a label.

"It's almost like he's a totally different person," said a longtime friend of Atlas'. "Sometimes I don't even recognize the old Tony Atlas. In a very short time, the personality of Saba Simba has completely consumed him."

Atlas' transformation has one obvious drawback. For years, people were drawn to the ring by Atlas' name. As a former Mr. USA bodybuilder and the man who pinned a budding Hulk Hogan in the early-1980s, Tony Atlas has become a name that everyone, not just wrestling fans, is familiar with.

"That's true, everybody's aware of Tony Atlas," said the friend. "But in a way it's good that nobody knows who Saba Simba is.

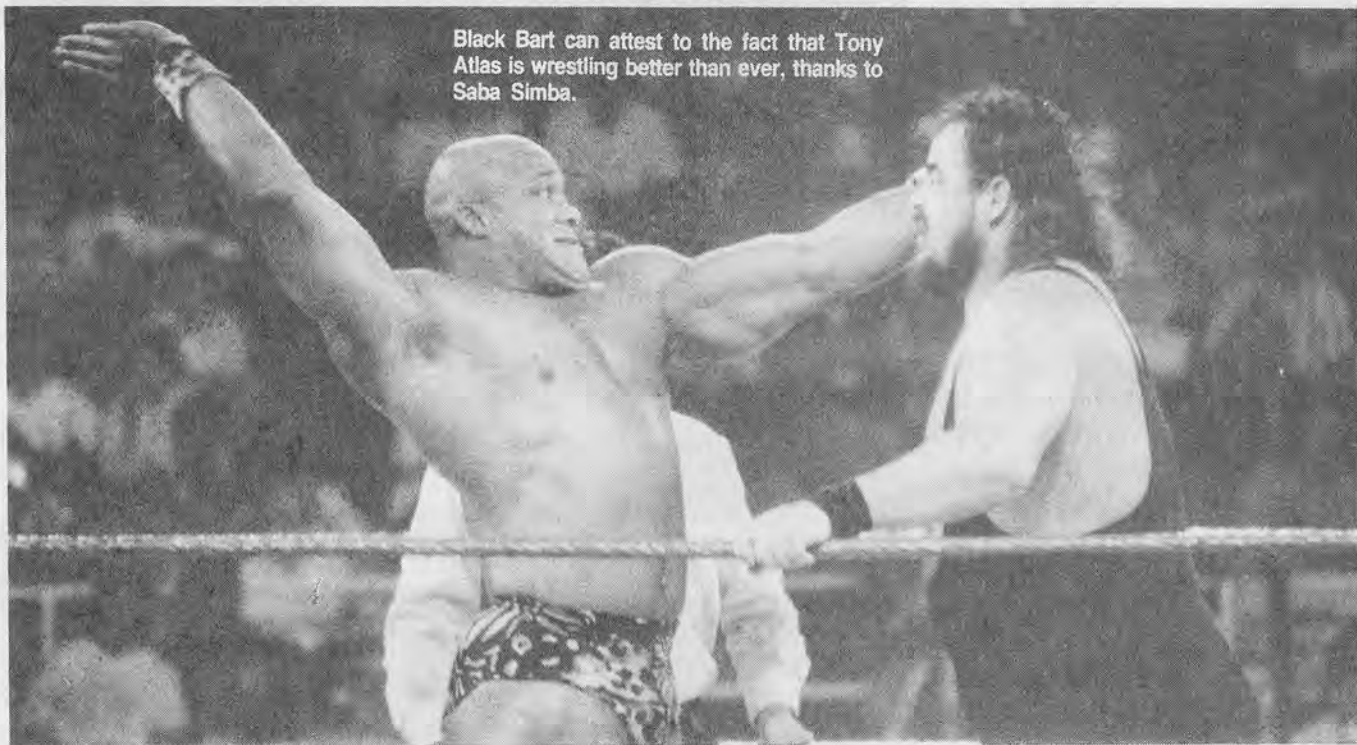
Tony has a chance to forge a new name into the public consciousness. Once Saba Simba starts winning matches in the WWF, he'll gain the notoriety."

For 16 months Atlas held the ICW title. He finally lost his belt to Vic Steamboat on July 24, and then was forced to leave the federation when he came out on the short end of a loser-leave-town rematch. He could have taken the easier, more prestigious route and moved on to another small federation where he would be an immediate title threat. Instead, he chose to immerse himself among a sea of potential challengers in the WWF. He knows he faces a steep climb before he can reach the ranks of top contender in the WWF.

"Tony really had nothing left to prove," said the friend. "He knew he could win in the smaller leagues. But Tony loves a challenge; that's what he thrives on. He needed to make a change for himself, to attempt the unknown. If he can rise to the top of the WWF, it will give him tremendous

Leaving behind a line of rulebreaking accomplishments in the ICW, Tony Atlas has resurfaced in the WWF as Saba Simba. Atlas faces a demanding task, but his new identity has given him the will to succeed despite the odds

Black Bart can attest to the fact that Tony Atlas is wrestling better than ever, thanks to Saba Simba.





Simba knows that defeating prelim competitors like Barry O (above) and Rose (below) is just the first step toward being a major contender in the WWF. Certainly, Atlas has the ability to succeed in the talent-rich federation.

satisfaction."

There has been much satisfaction in the 13-year career of the man they call "Superman." He has won several singles championships, including the World Class TV belt he took from Crusher (Bam Bam Bigelow) Yurkof in 1986. And among his numerous tag team accomplishments is the WWF World tag team title he garnered with Rocky Johnson in 1983. Atlas still has an excellent musculature and his desire and intensity is apparent every time he steps into the ring.

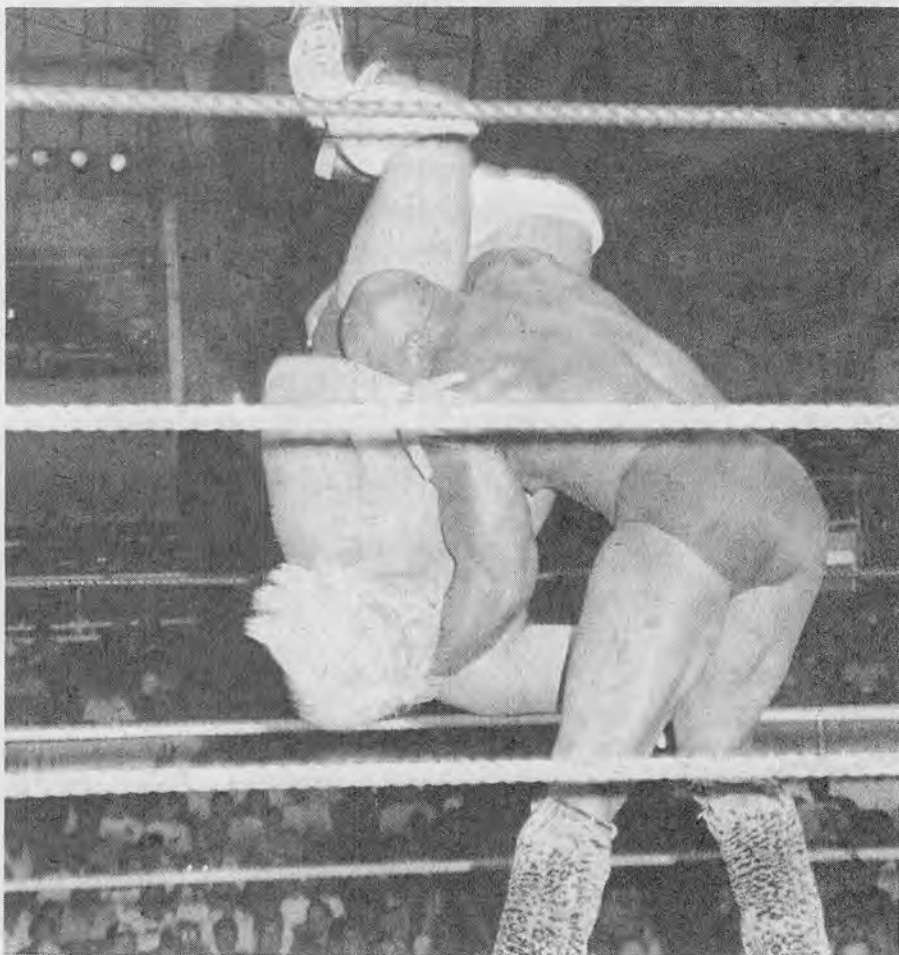
But the truth is that with The Ultimate Warrior in the prime of his career, Kerry Von Erich moving up, and rogues like Earthquake flexing their might, Saba Simba faces more obstacles than ever before. Superman went into a phone booth and changed into Saba Simba as the first step in meeting a personal challenge, not as a means of escaping an external one.

"He knows that he's up against some great wrestlers and that it's going to take a lot of hard work to get to the top," said the friend. "But he had to make the move before he got stagnant. I don't think he'd admit it, but wrestling was getting old for Tony. Now he's in the WWF and he's wrestling new people in front of a new group of fans. Of course he wants to be a contender, but the most important thing is that Tony start enjoying himself in the ring again."

Part of his newfound pleasure will come from his audience. Atlas was vicious and sneaky in the ICW, possessing a rulebreaking style that brought him a title but not the support of the fans.

Saba Simba aims to fight cleanly and charismatically. That means a chance to win the adoration of the masses.

"He used to love it when the crowd cheered for us," said Johnson, recalling the days of tag



team glory. "It really bothered him when people booed us for something. He always wanted to keep the fans happy. I don't know how he survived as a rulebreaker in

the ICW."

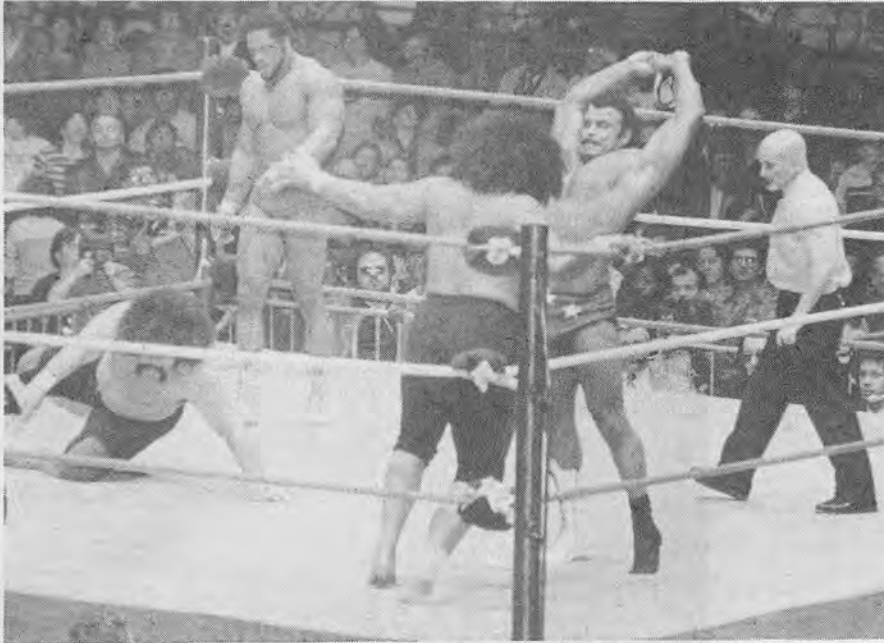
It couldn't have been easy. Ever since he earned widespread admiration upon winning the Mr. USA title, Atlas has cherished his

public appeal. It took courage and the intelligence of a seasoned wrestler for Atlas to recognize that rulebreaking was his ticket to the top of the ICW. It can only be a relief to be on the side of the good once again.

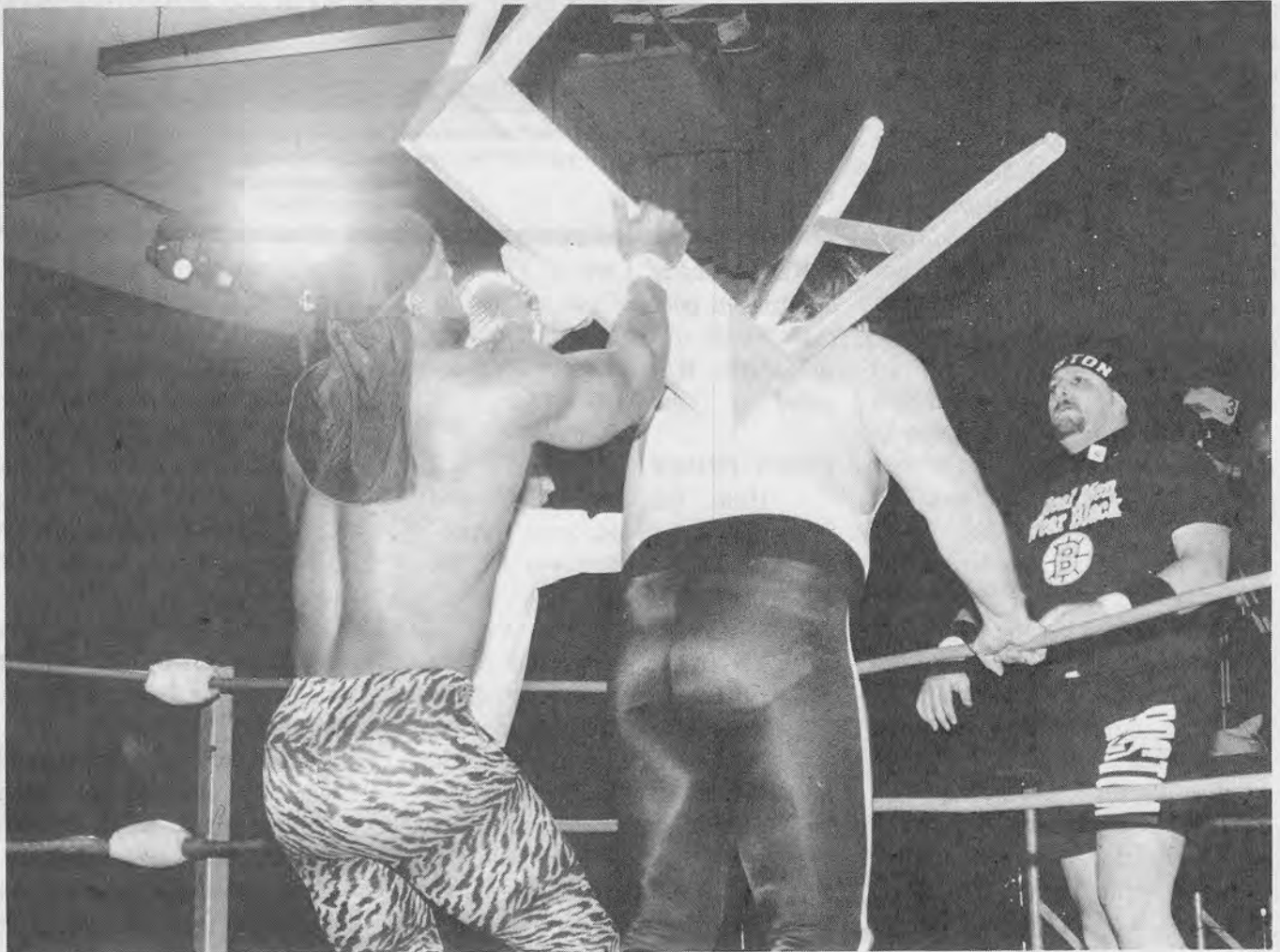
Ultimately, the Saba Simba-Tony Atlas relationship is a reciprocal one. Atlas gives Simba the strength and ability to make the grade in the WWF, while Simba provides Atlas with a new lease on life. They are a tandem combined into a single unit.

Here he is: Saba Simba. A new man with no past of his own. An emerging figure who is after his own glory.

The catch is that Tony Atlas resides within the body of Saba Simba. And if Atlas is the physical, determined man he has always been, that means Saba Simba's success is sure to follow. □



In 1983, Atlas and Rocky Johnson defeated The Wild Samoans for the WWF World tag team title (above). Atlas enjoyed the fans' cheers then, but they were against him in the ICW when he blindsided Rochester Roadblock with his roadblock (below).



The telephone wires sizzle every month as two top wrestlers voice their rage and hostility toward each other. This is the unedited transcript of their conversation, your chance to see the raw emotion that results when two antagonists face off . . . One on One

ONE ON ONE



"You're half my age, and still you struggle to beat me. If you can't beat me, you're in big trouble. Your wrestling career is going nowhere."

—Percy Pringle

YEARS OF TRAINING, the input of his famous brothers, dedication to weight-lifting, and an education in the sport all brought Chris Von Erich to this . . . a feud with Percy Pringle.

Yeah, that's right, Percy Pringle, the rotund manager whose style is to taunt and run. Taking on Pringle wasn't exactly an act of bravery on Chris' part. But who was to blame him?

Chris, at 5'7", 200 pounds, is one of the smallest men in the sport. His size, in fact, may keep him from ever taking advantage of his God-given abilities. But last June 22, Chris was finally forced into action and his opponent was Pringle.

When Matt Borne, an enemy of the Von Erich family, joined forces with Pringle, Chris decided to help out in the fight. He challenged Pringle to a match at the Dallas Sportatorium and went on to win his pro debut.

Since then, Pringle has been Chris' only opponent. In fact, their feud has intensified. Pringle became involved in the Toni Adams vs. Jeannie feud and constantly interfered on Jeannie's behalf. Chris, perhaps out of a sense of duty, started showing up at these matches to neutralize Pringle.

It's not exactly a battle of giants. It can't be called a war of the worlds. The feud of the century it ain't. In fact, many observers find the Pringle vs. Chris feud incredibly amusing.

We don't agree. Chris vs. Pringle is a fascinating battle of two men on the outer fringes of the sport. Why not, we thought. Why not bring them together . . . "One on One."

PERCY PRINGLE:

Hello, little boy. Aren't you supposed to ask your parents' permission before you use the telephone?

CHRIS VON ERICH:

Very funny, Pringle, but you're not exactly the jolly green giant, yourself. It's just your speed to interfere in a women's match, 'cause that's exactly what you are. A woman. Toni Adams would wipe the floor with you.

PP: Let's not get carried away here, Chris. I'd call you Von Erich except you're an insult to the

family name. This might surprise you, but I had a lot of respect for Kerry, Kevin, Mike, and David. I wasn't always on their side, but the Von Erichs have always been great wrestlers. I don't know where the heck you came from. What's the story, Chris? Were you adopted? Or did the doctor drop you on your head at birth?

CVE: Go ahead, get personal, you overgrown smurf. Did you or did you not get your butt whipped by? Have you or have you not been embarrassed every time we've gone at each other. Tell me, Pringle, tell all the people out there what's happened.

PP: Gloat, Chris, suit yourself, but the fact is that I'm a manager and you're supposedly a wrestler.

N ONE



"Did getting your butt kicked affect your mind? Pringle, you've done nothing, you are nothing, you're an absolute failure."

—Chris Von Erich

You're half my age, and still you struggle to beat me. Well, little boy, I've got some news for you. If you can't beat me, you're in big trouble. Your wrestling career is going nowhere.

CVE: I'm not sure what the future holds, Pringle . . .

PP: Well, I do. The future holds trouble for you, unless you find a way to grow about a foot. Listen, boy, I just don't understand it. I don't understand how such a big, powerful family could've turned out something like you. Did weightlifting stunt your growth?

CVE: Did getting your butt kicked affect your mind? Pringle, you've done nothing, you are nothing, you're an absolute failure. And, what's worse, you're a turncoat.

You used to be a friend of my family . . .

PP: Then I realized you were part of it . . .

CVE: . . . But you've got no loyalty, and without that, you've got nothing. Borne doesn't trust you and you don't trust Borne. What kind of relationship is that? Jeannie doesn't need your help, but she doesn't want to hurt your feelings. What the heck does she need you for when she's got Steve Austin? Pringle, have you ever looked at yourself in the mirror?

PP: Chris, how many phone books do you sit on when you eat?

CVE: Answer my question.

PP: Are you tall enough to go on the rides at Disneyland?

CVE: I said answer my question.

PP: Are you a legal munchkin? Follow the yellow brick road, Chris . . . to your doom.

CVE: Cute, Pringle, real cute. Now answer my question.

PP: Okay, midget, I'll answer your question. The answer is that I do what best suits myself. I look out for Percy Pringle and the men I manage. You seem to be forgetting, little boy, that I've managed champions. I've been a success in this sport. You're just grabbing on to your brothers' coattails. Of course, that doesn't surprise me. Otherwise you'd get lost.

CVE: Pringle, in case you haven't noticed, I'm bigger and stronger than you . . .

PP: Little boy, I'll say it again: You're a wrestler, I'm a manager. My career is booming. Your career hasn't even started. And it won't. Your resume includes a match against Percy Pringle. You're afraid to wrestle anybody else.

CVE: Not afraid, Pringle, just not ready.

PP: My boy, you're 20 years old. The growth years are over. It's time to consider a new profession. Listen, I may not be the greatest wrestler, but I can tell talent. I've sparred with the best. I've trained the best. I can feel talent in my gut . . .

CVE: If only there were enough room there . . .

PP: And I could tell when I wrestled you that you just don't have it. You don't have it inside. You don't have the size, you don't have the ability, you don't have the courage. My boy, you've gotta have one of the three to make it in this sport. You ain't got nothing.

CVE: We'll see about that, Pringle. I know I've still got something to prove. I'm just taking it slow.

PP: It's the only way you can take it. Some people are just misguided. Get out before it's too late. Take my advice. It's the best you'll ever get. □

SINCERELY YOURS

(Continued from page 5)

it when Vicious matures and becomes one of America's most feared wrestlers.

ELVIN THOMAS
Houston

GIVE LUGER HIS DUE

I don't understand what is going on with Lex Luger, but he isn't getting half the credit and publicity he deserves. In my opinion, Lex is the most talented NWA wrestler around.

There have been allegations that Luger doesn't care about anyone but himself. I don't think that's true. The "Total Package" has been right beside Sting through all the bullying and cheating by The Four Horsemen. Luger has taken attacks and beatings from the Horsemen that he didn't deserve.

Lex has worked very hard at gaining



Lex Luger pummels Barry Windham. In reader Margaret Slatton's view, Luger should be recognized as being the best wrestler in the sport.

the NWA World title, and he should get another chance at it. Come on, Lex, what do you say? Give your fans and yourself what you deserve . . . the World championship!

MARGARET SLATTON
Murfreesboro, TN

"PERFECT" ADVICE

I recently went to the first WWF card at the Anaheim Convention Center in over a year. Afterward, I went



"Mr. Perfect" Curt Hennig may be a rule-breaker, but he's idolized by reader Roy Lucier, who reports that Hennig told him to stay away from drugs.

back to the local hotel in hopes of meeting some wrestlers. I couldn't believe it when I saw my idol, "Mr. Perfect."

I talked with Hennig for about 30 minutes, but the one thing he told me that I'll always remember is, "Stay away from drugs." Now I like Curt Hennig even more, and I hope the next time the fans see this man wrestle they all cheer. It's the least they could do for someone with his attitude.

ROY LUCIER
Garden Grove, CA

BEEFCAKE BLESSINGS

Since Brutus "The Barber" Beefcake was seriously injured, I have yet to hear anyone in the WWF mention anything about his condition. When Hulk Hogan got injured, everyone, including Vince McMahon, pleaded with the fans to send Hogan get-well cards. Now, nobody seems to care if Brutus gets any fan mail.

(Continued on page 54)

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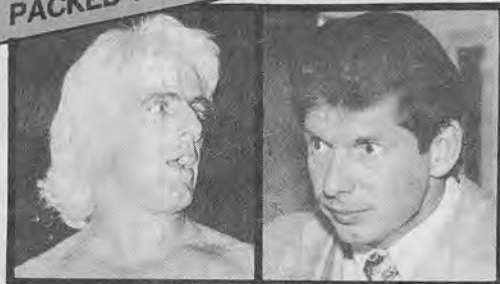
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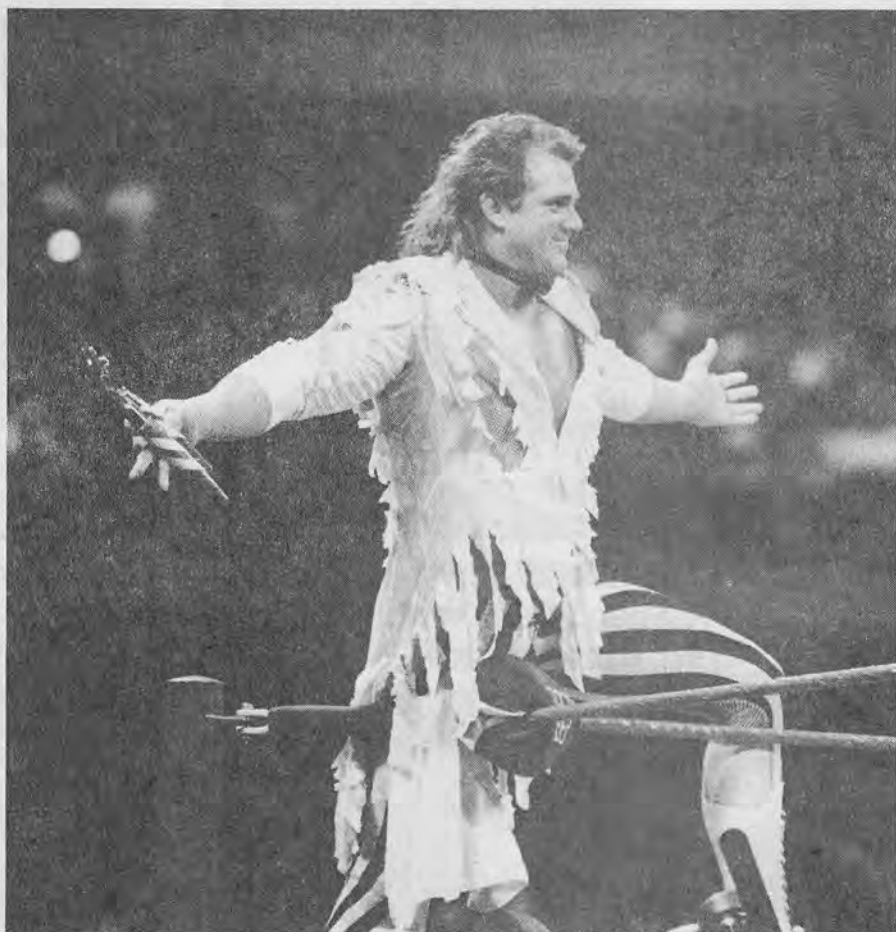
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SINCERELY YOURS

(Continued from page 52)



When Brutus Beefcake suffered his serious injuries, the WWF barely acknowledged what had happened. That was a major disappointment to reader Charles Mitchell.

Beefcake was there when the WWF needed him, but now it seems as though he doesn't exist. I know he exists, though, so: Get well, Beefcake!

CHARLES MITCHELL

Bronx, NY

DISGUSTED BY DEMOLITION

Why the heck should Demolition be allowed to have three members? It's totally unfair and should be stopped immediately! If Ax and Smash can't defend the WWF tag team title, they should be stripped of it. Instead, WWF President Jack Tunney is permitting Crush to join Demolition.

If Tunney allows Crush, then why not let The Hart Foundation, The Rockers, The Legion of Doom, and all other tag teams get a third person in their corner?

Demolition is made up of yellow cowards who are afraid to lose their



If Demolition Crush was allowed to defend the WWF tag team title with Ax and Smash, then other tag teams should be permitted to add a third member, writes Peter Allen.

title belts. The Hart Foundation is willing to fight all three of them in a title match. Now *that's* a team with courage.

PETER ALLEN
Espanola, Ontario

TALK TITLES, TITO

Tito Santana is the most underrated and hardest-working wrestler in the sport. He doesn't get the title shots that he deserves. I think Tito should demand a shot at either the Intercontinental title or the WWF World title.

Demand it, Tito!

BENJAMIN DUGAN
Laingstrung, MI



Tito Santana should demand a WWF title shot immediately, writes reader Benjamin Dugan. He feels Santana is highly underrated.

WE WANT MORE

I love the WWF, but I think it should have more than one *Saturday Night's Main Event* every few months. All my friends and I agree that there should be one or two *every* month.

RONNIE WILLOUGHBY
Bruce, WI ☐

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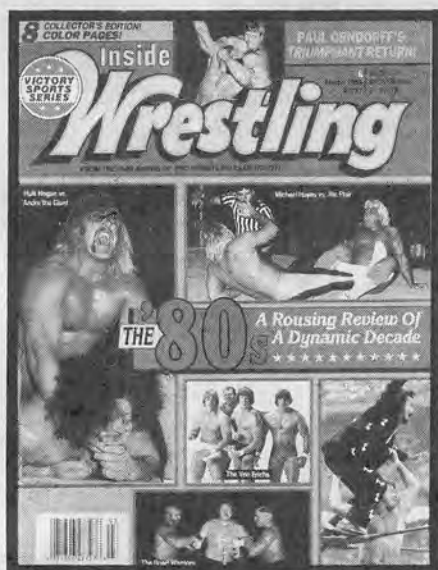
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DRESSING ROOM DOOR

(Continued from page 12)



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was impossible to tell who he was.

"Jerry Lawler at leisure," Lowe explained. "This is what he does when his back is turned. So much for the family man."

Lowe obviously wasn't finished. The next picture, equally dark, equally inconclusive and unidentifiable, showed a man stealing baseball cards from a group of young boys.

"Here's your hero," Lowe said snidely.

I remarked that the photos couldn't hold water in a court of law.

"Are you doubting my ability as a photographer?" Lowe countered. He pointed out that he was one of our magazine group's best photographers for years. But such low-quality work would never appear in our publications.

It became apparent that these photos were dark, fuzzy, and inconclusive for a reason: Lowe wanted it that way. He purposely took bad photos.

He denied that, too.

"These photos were taken under very difficult conditions," he

complained. "A lesser photographer would have ended up with nothing."

Apparently, Lowe is willing to sink rather *low* to discredit Lawler. But in doing so, he's only discrediting himself.

"Sam Lowe was one of my best men," said Senior Editor Bill Apter, who is responsible for coordinating the photo department of our magazines. It's a considerable responsibility. "It's a shame that he's decided to go this route. Unfortunately, though, he's not the first."

That's true. In fact, one of the quickest routes to wrestling stardom appears to be through our photo department.

Jim Cornette, manager of *The Midnight Express*, is a former photographer of ours. Ditto for Paul E. Dangerously. Lowe is on his way.

"If I become famous," Lowe gloated, "I'll owe it all to Bill."

"Spare me," a downcast Apter said.

That said, I asked Lowe if he had any dark, blurry, photos of him beating Eddie Marlin in a



Eddie Gilbert is responsible for photographer Sam Lowe's direct involvement in the sport. Dave Rosenbaum warns Lowe that he'd be better off taking pictures.



Gilbert and Lowe pounce on USWA match-maker Eddie Marlin, who felt compelled to step into the ring to battle them.

boxing match.

"You're a funny man, Rosenbaum," Lowe said. "How'd you like to step into the ring with me?"

Let me point out, just for the record, that if wrestling had a top 10 for reporters and photographers (based on wrestling or boxing ability), Lowe would be right near the bottom. Athletic ability isn't Sam's strong point.

The point here is that Sam Lowe, a very solid photographer, has entered a field he knows nothing about. He's getting involved with the wrong men. He should beg Apter for his old job back.

Sam (Bass) Lowe is simply in the wrong frame of mind.

And about those blurry photos...

"Every trick in the book has been tried on me, and I'm still standing," Lawler said. "Listen, Sam Lowe is the least of my problems. The Gilberts and Anthony are something to deal with, but I ain't gonna mess with some photographer. Tell Lowe to go back where he came from before he gets hurt."

Lawler's advice is worth taking.

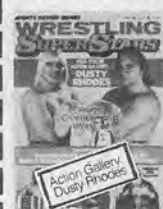
Sam Lowe, as always, does his best work behind the darkroom door.

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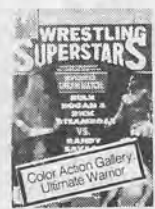
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THE INSIDER

(Continued from page 14)

preparing to face Sting for the NWA crown at Halloween Havoc? "It's a two-hit match," Vicious claims. "I hit Sting, Sting hits the floor, I put on the belt. I respect Ric Flair, but he's had his time. This is Vicious time and no one will stand in my way."

For the first time I can recall, Ric Flair, whom I gleefully point out as one who loves an impending brouhaha, would not comment on the situation.

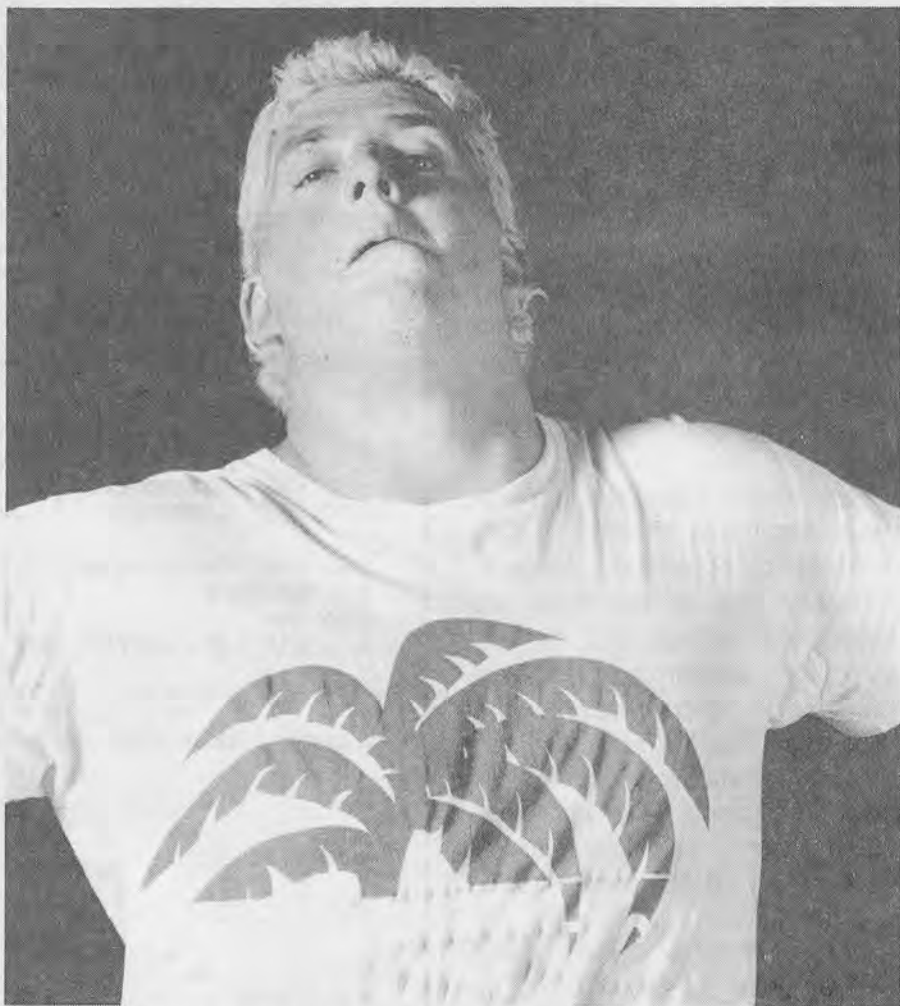
NEWS ITEM: Prodigal Son Gets Dusted

I must admit a begrudging admiration for Dustin (Son of Godzilla) Rhodes. Dustin never displayed any of the rebelliousness most sons of famous dad-

dies have. He wasn't implicated in another person's death like the sons of actors Marlon Brando and Ryan O'Neal. He didn't fall into a pattern of drug addiction like the children of Paul Newman and Bill Cosby.

Rather, he followed in the paths of the children of Lloyd Bridges, Ken Griffey Sr., Blackjack Mulligan, Gordie Howe, Bruce Dern, Hank Williams Sr., John F. Kennedy, Eddie Fisher, and Douglas Fairbanks, who decided to follow in their (say this three times fast) famous fathers' footsteps.

Dustin more closely resembled the son of Jack, of beanstalk fame, when he started his career as a professional wrestler two years ago. His gross lack of skills



Dustin Rhodes, by allowing Ted DiBiase and Virgil to outflank him, has proved conclusively that he is indeed his father's son, Ellner sarcastically comments.

and general ring incompetence were only exceeded by his willingness to take a blow and return for more.

I'm happy to report Dustin remains in possession of both of those elusive qualities. In a recent WWF match in Toledo, Ohio, Dustin appeared at ringside to cheerlead for Dusty in the big man's current campaign against Randy Savage. Placing himself innocently among ringside fans, where he stood out like a leper at a models' convention, Dustin exhorted his papa to beat up on the "Macho King."

Now Dustin did not have to do this. Dustin could have expressed his bitterness at his father's clownish ring behavior. Dustin could have expressed his dissatisfaction over his father's recent choice of girlfriends. But by cheering loudly for his old man, Dustin showed, come splotch or high water, that he is the son of Dusty Rhodes and he's damn proud of it.

The scene was filled with poignancy and sentimentality, although I could have used a few anti-nausea pills, especially when the fans chimed in right along with Dustin. It became really touching when Ted DiBiase and Virgil emerged from their dressing room, evicted the fans seated on either side of Dustin with \$100 bribes, and began to beat on the kid.

Of course, this aroused the protective papa in Dusty, who made the unfortunate mistake of turning his back to Savage, while screaming for DiBiase and Virgil to stop.

You can probably guess the rest. Savage joined Virgil and DiBiase, and the three marauders thoroughly humiliated both Rhodes. Afterward, Dustin and Dusty screamed for revenge to whomever would listen. I chose not to. After all, this was one story that had a very happy ending. □

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ON ASSIGNMENT

(Continued from page 16)

about Sapphire, either. Loyal to Dusty Rhodes, she sold out to Ted DiBiase for a few bucks.

Nice image, huh? "Women can be bought" is the message.

Kind of makes me want to lose my lunch.

The thing is, I never grouped Sapphire and Sensational Sherri under the same heading. Sapphire seemed to be trustworthy; I never thought she could be bought. Sensational Sherri is just bad to the bone.

It's not her aggressiveness that gets me down. In fact, I find Sherri's go-for-it attitude to be quite refreshing (and in startling contrast to Savage's former manager, Elizabeth). She likes to be in control of a situation.

The thing is, Sherri's risking too much to be in Savage's corner.

She could be winning world titles again. Instead, she's wasting her time being sidekick to the "Macho King."

Case in point: Sherri was scheduled to wrestle Sapphire at SummerSlam '90. The match never came off because DiBiase bought off Sapphire.

The point is, though, that a former world champion like Sherri shouldn't be wrestling pretenders like Sapphire. She certainly shouldn't be losing to them (as she has on several occasions in past tag team bouts).

It's enough to make you believe that Sherri Martel and Sensational Sherri are two different people. Or at least two different personalities.

Sapphire, meanwhile, is just an example of what happens when a poor person has a wad of money

waved in her face. She grabbed the dough and ran.

For shame? Sure. But everybody has to eat (not that Sapphire looked like she was missing very many meals). And she was wise to give up her feud with Sherri so quickly; eventually, Sapphire would have been pounded into dust by Sherri. Sherri's been taken off-track by Savage, but she would've gotten back in time to beat Sapphire. That's a given.

My final question is: Why do some women always need a man in their corner?

How come Sherri doesn't feel complete unless she is part of a man's life?

I don't get it. Sure, I've had my share of relationships, but when one ends, I don't feel incomplete. I'm pretty happy with myself and my career. The right man just adds to my happiness; he doesn't necessitate it.

Why does a woman as strong as Sherri need men like Rose and Somers and Kelly and Savage?

I tried to get an answer out of her two or three years ago in Minneapolis when she was in the AWA. We were hanging out in a nightclub, staving off the wolves, when the conversation naturally turned to men.

Sherri babbled something about being independent. I pointed out that she always seems to have a man in her life. I asked her if *not* having a man makes her feel incomplete.

"It's just part of life," Sherri said. "Man needs woman, woman needs man."

I didn't buy it. I'll never buy it. Sherri needs herself and nothing else.

Unfortunately, she's sold herself off.

Even more unfortunately, she's made the rest of us look bad. □



As manager of Randy Savage, Sherri is constantly getting involved in his matches. Hunter wonders why Sherri must always be part of a man's career.

BACK ISSUES OF



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January 1983/Stories include: Putski, Muraco, Windham, Bockwinkel.

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May 1986/Stories include: Zbyszko, Von Erichs, Santana-Ventura, Hillbillies.

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December 1986/Stories include: Flair, Bockwinkel, Hogan, Gilbert, Nikita.

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March 1990/Stories include: Steiners, Flair-Funk, Hogan-Zeus, Survivors.

April 1990/Stories include: Hogan, Luger, Woman, Piper-Heenan, Travis.

May 1990/Stories include: Sting & Ultimate, Bossman, Von Erichs, Hogan.

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July 1990/Stories include: Poffo, Dusty-Savage, Luger-Flair, Doom, Blanchard.

August 1990/Stories include: Hogan-Warrior, Embry, Demolition, Doom.

September 1990/Stories include: Ultimate, Haynes, Luger, Doom, Tugboat.

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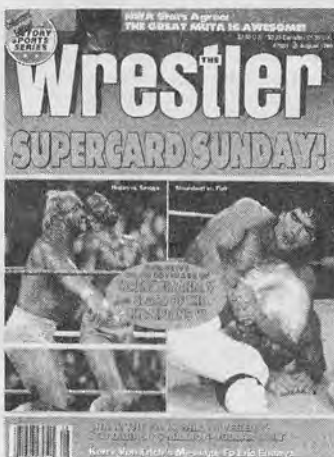
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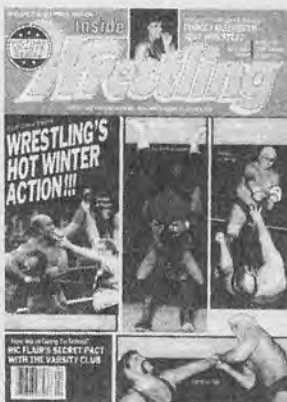
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A dynamic special section in the April 1989 issue of *Inside Wrestling* offered four pages of FULL-COLOR coverage of: The Survivor Series, SuperClash III, Battlestar 88, and Clash of the Champions—Season's Beatings. Plus, an in-depth analysis places all these cards in historical perspective.



◀ SPECIAL ISSUE #3

The December 1989 issue of *Sports Review Wrestling* called it "Wrestling's Hottest Summer Ever!"—and indeed it was! In that issue, readers saw four pages of glorious FULL-COLOR coverage of the NWA's Great American Bash and the WWF's SummerSlam '89. A very special editorial section offered exclusive in-depth analysis of both events.

DANGEROUSLY

(Continued from page 29)



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INSIDE WRESTLING'S OFFICIAL RATINGS

TOP 15

1—STING

(1) NWA World champion

2—ULTIMATE WARRIOR

(2) WWF World champion

3—LEX LUGER

(3) U.S. champion

4—KERRY VON ERICH

(4) WWF I-C champion

5—CURT HENNIG

(9) No. 1 contender: I-C title

6—HULK HOGAN

(5) No. 2 contender: WWF title

7—RIC FLAIR

(6) No. 2 contender: NWA title

8—ARN ANDERSON

(10) NWA TV champion

9—SID VICIOUS

(13) No. 3 contender: NWA title

10—LARRY ZBYSZKO

(7) AWA World champion

11—THE GRAPPLER

(12) PNW champion

12—VIC STEAMBOAT

(11) ICW champion

13—EARTHQUAKE

(14) No. 4 contender: WWF title

14—STAN HANSEN

(-) No. 1 contender: U.S. title

15—JERRY LAWLER

(-) No. 1 contender: USWA title

NWA

1—STING

(1) 260, Venice Beach, CA

2—LEX LUGER

(2) 268, Chicago, IL

3—RIC FLAIR

(3) 243, Minneapolis, MN

4—SID VICIOUS

(4) 318, West Memphis, AK

5—BLACK SCORPION

(-) ???, parts unknown

6—STAN HANSEN

(6) 322, Borger, TX

7—ARN ANDERSON

(5) 249, Minneapolis, MN

8—JUNKYARD DOG

(11) 305, Charlotte, NC

9—SCOTT STEINER

(-) 235, Bay City, MI

10—TERRY TAYLOR

(-) 225, Vero Beach, FL

11—HARLEY RACE

(-) 268, Kansas City, MO

12—MIKE ROTUNDO

(13) 245, Syracuse, NY

13—NORMAN

(-) 380, Saginaw, MI

14—TOMMY RICH

(-) 248, Hendersonville, TN

15—EL GIGANTE

(14) 435, Argentina

WWF

1—ULTIMATE WARRIOR

(1) 280, Queens, NY

2—KERRY VON ERICH

(2) 260, Denton, TX

3—CURT HENNIG

(5) 235, Minneapolis, MN

4—EARTHQUAKE

(6) 462, Montreal, Quebec

5—HULK HOGAN

(3) 302, Venice Beach, CA

6—RANDY SAVAGE

(7) 245, Sarasota, FL

7—RICK RUDE

(4) 246, Robbinsdale, MN

8—TED DIBIASE

(12) 247, Omaha, NB

9—SGT. SLAUGHTER

(-) 310, Parris Island, SC

10—DUSTY RHODES

(-) 302, Austin, TX

11—JAKE ROBERTS

(8) 246, Stone Mountain, GA

12—BIG BOSSMAN

(9) 358, Cobb County, GA

13—JIMMY SNUKA

(11) 250, Fiji Islands

14—DINO BRAVO

(13) 256, Montreal, Quebec

15—THE WARLORD

(-) 360, Chicago, IL

AWA

1—LARRY ZBYSZKO

(1) 248, Pittsburgh, PA

2—LARRY CAMERON

(-) 280, Chicago, IL

3—TATSUMI FUJINAMI

(-) 231, Tokyo, Japan

4—SCOTT NORTON

(-) 360, Minneapolis, MN

5—NIKITA KOLOFF

(13) 275, Moscow, Russia

6—THE TROOPER

(-) 243, Charlotte, NC

7—COL. DeBEERS

(7) 248, Cape Town, S. Africa

8—D.J. PETERSON

(11) 245, St. Joseph, MO

9—MIKE ENOS

(14) 252, Minneapolis, MN

10—WAYNE BLOOM

(-) 266, Minneapolis, MN

11—HARLEY RACE

(4) 268, Kansas City, MO

12—BUCK ZUMHOFF

(6) 222, Minneapolis, MN

13—JONNIE STEWART

(8) 242, Pacific Palisades, CA

14—CURTIS HUGHES

(10) 308, Kansas City, KS

15—JAKE MILLIMAN

(15) 220, Minneapolis, MN

MOST POPULAR

1—HULK HOGAN

Last month: No. 1 Most Popular

2—STING

Last month: No. 2 Most Popular

3—LEX LUGER

Last month: No. 4 Most Popular

4—THE ULTIMATE WARRIOR

Last month: No. 3 Most Popular

5—KERRY VON ERICH

Last month: No. 5 Most Popular

6—BIG BOSSMAN

Last month: No. 6 Most Popular

7—SCOTT STEINER

Last month: No. 10 Most Popular

8—TUGBOAT

Last month: No. 14 Most Popular

9—JERRY LAWLER

Last month: No. 7 Most Popular

10—NIKOLAI VOLKOFF

Last month: unrated

11—DUSTY RHODES

Last month: No. 11 Most Popular

12—RICK STEINER

Last month: No. 12 Most Popular

13—JAKE ROBERTS

Last month: No. 8 Most Popular

14—EL GIGANTE

Last month: No. 15 Most Popular

15—HACKSAW DUGGAN

Last month: unrated

MOST HATED

1—SID VICIOUS

Last month: No. 2 Most Hated

2—EARTHQUAKE

Last month: No. 3 Most Hated

3—TED DIBIASE

Last month: No. 12 Most Hated

4—BLACK SCORPION

Last month: not rated

5—RIC FLAIR

Last month: No. 1 Most Hated

6—EDDIE GILBERT

Last month: No. 7 Most Hated

7—STAN HANSEN

Last month: unrated

8—SGT. SLAUGHTER

Last month: unrated

9—STEVE AUSTIN

Last month: No. 9 Most Hated

10—RICK RUDE

Last month: No. 4 Most Hated

11—RANDY SAVAGE

Last month: No. 14 Most Hated

12—ARN ANDERSON

Last month: No. 5 Most Hated

13—CURT HENNIG

Last month: No. 6 Most Hated

14—LARRY ZBYSZKO

Last month: No. 10 Most Hated

15—THE GRAPPLER

Last month: No. 15 Most Hated

TAG TEAMS

1—DOOM

(1) NWA World tag team champions

2—THE HART FOUNDATION

(2) WWF World tag team champions

3—RICK & SCOTT STEINER

(3) U.S. tag team champions

4—GREG VALENTINE & THE HONKY TONK MAN

(-) No. 1 contenders: WWF tag title

5—DEMOLITION (SMASH, CRUSH, AX)

(4) No. 2 contenders: WWF tag title

6—ARN ANDERSON & RIC FLAIR

(-) No. 1 contenders: NWA tag title

7—TRACEY SMOTHERS & STEVE ARMSTRONG

(8) No. 2 contenders: NWA tag title

8—JEFF JARRETT & JEFF GAYLORD

(-) USWA tag team champions

9—THE MIDNIGHT EXPRESS

(6) No. 1 contenders: U.S. tag title

10—D.J. PETERSON & THE TROOPER

(9) AWA World tag team champions

11—THE ROCK 'N' ROLL EXPRESS

(5) No. 3 contenders: NWA tag title

12—THE UNDERTAKERS

(12) ICW tag team champions

13—HERCULES & PAUL ROMA

(-) No. 3 contenders: WWF tag title

14—AL MADRIL & RICKY SANTANA

(10) No. 1 contenders: PNW tag title

15—BRIAN PILLMAN & TOM ZENK

(7) No. 2 contenders: U.S. tag title

These ratings are compiled by the editors with the assistance of promoters, wrestlers, and reporters around the country, and are based on won-lost records for the past month, quality of opposition, and the inherent skill of each wrestler. The number in parentheses indicates a wrestler's position in that category last issue; (-) indicates that the wrestler was not rated in that category last issue ... "Most Popular" and "Most Hated" ratings are based on nationwide surveys of wrestling fans and on mail that comes to our offices ... Championships marked with asterisks on the "Roll Call of Champions" indicate title changes that have taken place since our previous issue ... The information under the championship listing indicates the date that champion won the title, who the former champion was, and where the match took place.

For period ended September 28, 1990

ROLL CALL OF CHAMPIONS

* ALL-JAPAN ASIAN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:

JOHNNY ACE & KENTA KOBASHI

(September 8, 1990; tournament final over Bobby Fulton & Tommy Rogers; Fukui, Japan)

ALL-JAPAN INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION: STAN HANSEN

(July 27, 1990; for vacant title over Mitsuharu Misawa; Matsudo, Japan)

ALL-JAPAN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: TITLE VACANT

(most recently held by Jumbo Tsuruta & Kabuki)

ALL-JAPAN JR. HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: MASANOBU FUCHI

(October 20, 1989; from Joe Malenko; Nagoya, Japan)

ALL-JAPAN UNITED NATIONAL CHAMPION: STAN HANSEN

(July 27, 1990; for vacant title over Mitsuharu Misawa; Matsudo, Japan)

ALL-JAPAN WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION: BULL NAKANO

(April 1, 1990; from Mitsuko Nishiwaki; Tokyo, Japan)

* ALL-JAPAN WOMEN'S CHAMPION: TITLE VACANT

(most recently held by Minami Toyota)

ALL-JAPAN WOMEN'S TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:

AKIRA HOKUTO & SUZUKA MINAMI

(February 7, 1990; from Grizzly Iwamoto & Aja Kong; Osaka, Japan)

AWA LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: BUCK ZUMHOFF

(August 12, 1990; tournament final over Jonnie Stewart; Rochester, MN)

AWA WORLD CHAMPION: LARRY ZBYSZKO

(April 8, 1990; from Mr. Saito; St. Paul, MN)

AWA WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE TROOPER & D.J. PETERSON

(August 11, 1990; from The Destruction Crew; Rochester, MN)

AWA WORLD WOMEN'S CHAMPION: CANDI DEVINE

(December 6, 1989; tournament match over Judy Martin; Toronto, Ontario)

GEORGIA ALL-STAR CHAMPION: NICK BUSICK

(May 17, 1990; tournament final over Mike Golden; Lawrenceville, GA)

ICW CHAMPION: VIC STEAMBOAT

(July 24, 1990; from Tony Atlas; Middletown, NY)

ICW TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE UNDERTAKERS

(March 31, 1990; tournament final over Phil Apollo & Eric Sbraccia; Charlton, MA)

IWA WOMEN'S CHAMPION: MADUSA MICELI

(September 14, 1989; tournament final over Beastie; Kumamoto, Japan)

IWGP CHAMPION: RIKI CHOSHU

(August 19, 1990; from Big Van Vader; Tokyo, Japan)

IWGP INTERNATIONAL TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:

THE GREAT MUTA & MASA CHONO

(April 27, 1990; from Mr. Saito & Shinya Hashimoto; Tokyo Bay, Japan)

IWGP JR. HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: THE PEGASUS KID

(August 19, 1990; from Justin Riger; Tokyo, Japan)

LPWA CHAMPION: SUSAN SEXTON

(by LPWA officials' decision)

LPWA TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:

MISTY BLUE SIMMES & HEIDI LEE MORGAN

(March 13, 1990; tournament final over Bad Girl & Black Venus; Laughlin, NV)

NWA TV CHAMPION: ARN ANDERSON

(January 2, 1990; from The Great Muta; Gainesville, GA)

NWA WORLD CHAMPION: STING

(July 7, 1990; from Ric Flair; Baltimore, MD)

NWA WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: DOOM

(May 19, 1990; from Rick & Scott Steiner; Washington, DC)

PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAMPION: THE GRAPPLER

(August 4, 1990; for held up title over Scotty the Body; Portland, OR)

* PACIFIC NORTHWEST TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: TITLE HELD UP

(most recently held by Ricky Santana & Al Madrid)

PACIFIC NORTHWEST TV CHAMPION: SCOTTY THE BODY

(March 17, 1990; from Ricky Santana; Portland, OR)

PACIFIC WRESTLING FEDERATION CHAMPION: STAN HANSEN

(July 27, 1990; for vacant title over Mitsuharu Misawa; Matsudo, Japan)

PACIFIC WRESTLING FEDERATION INT'L TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:

TITLE VACANT

(most recently held by Jumbo Tsuruta & Kabuki)

* PRO WRESTLING AMERICA CHAMPION: RICKY RICE

(September 22, 1990; from Jerry Lynn; Chicago, IL)

PWF (FLORIDA) CHAMPION: STEVE KEIRN

(July 9, 1989; from Kendall Windham; Orlando, FL)

* PWF (FLORIDA) TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: MARK STARR & SGT. ROCK

(September 13, 1990; from Hurricane Walker (substituting for Mike Graham) & Joe Gomez; Tampa, FL)

PWF (FLORIDA) LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: JIM BACKLUND

(August 2, 1990; from Lou Perez; Tampa, FL)

SOUTH ATLANTIC HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: ROBERT FULLER

(June 30, 1990; tournament final over Rick Steamboat; Winston-Salem, NC)

* SOUTH ATLANTIC TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE AMERICAN BULLDOGS

(September 11, 1990; from The Nasty Boys; Columbia, SC)

U.S. CHAMPION: LEX LUGER

(May 22, 1989; from Michael Hayes; Bluefield, WV)

U.S. TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: RICK & SCOTT STEINER

(August 24, 1990; from The Midnight Express; East Rutherford, NJ)

USWA CHAMPION: TITLE VACANT

(most recently held by The Snowman)

* USWA TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: BRIAN LEE & DON HARRIS

(September 8, 1990; from Jeff Jarrett & Jeff Gaylord; Memphis, TN)

UWA HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: BIG VAN VADER

(November 22, 1989; from El Canek; Mexico City, Mexico)

* WWC CARIBBEAN CHAMPION: KIM DUK

(September 8, 1990; from Invader I; Bayamon, Puerto Rico)

* WWC CARIBBEAN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:

ERIC EMBRY & RICK VALENTINE

(September 23, 1990; from Hurricane Castillo Jr. & Miguel Perez Jr.; Juana Diaz, Puerto Rico)

* WWC JR. HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: RON STARR

(September 26, 1990; from Invader IV; Miramar, Puerto Rico)

WWC PUERTO RICAN CHAMPION: TITLE VACANT

(most recently held by Manny Fernandez)

* WWC TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE SUPER MEDICS

(September 15, 1990; from Lance Idol & Rick Valentine; Bayamon, Puerto Rico)

WWC UNIVERSAL CHAMPION: CARLOS COLON

(March 31, 1990; from Abdullah the Butcher; San Juan, Puerto Rico)

WWC WOMEN'S CHAMPION: MONSTER RIPPER

(July 7, 1990; for vacant title over Candi Devine; Bayamon, Puerto Rico)

WWF INTERCONTINENTAL CHAMPION: KERRY VON ERICH

(August 27, 1990; from Curt Hennig; Philadelphia, PA)

WWF WORLD CHAMPION: THE ULTIMATE WARRIOR

(April 1, 1990; from Hulk Hogan; Toronto, Ontario)

WWF WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: BRET HART & JIM NEIDHART

(August 27, 1990; from Demolition; Philadelphia, PA)

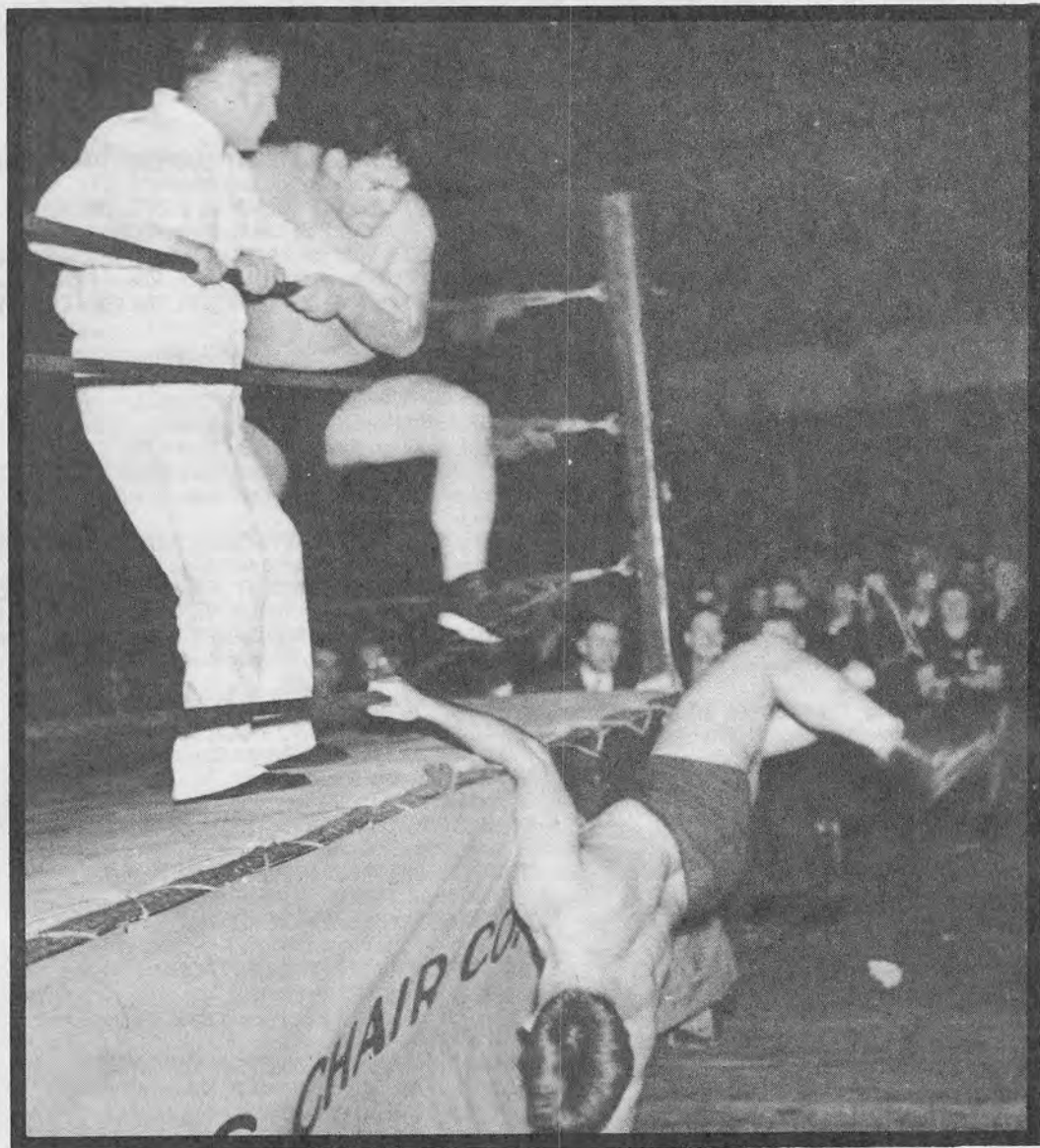
WWF WOMEN'S CHAMPION: ROCKIN' ROBIN

(October 7, 1988; from Sherri Martel; Paris, France)

Blast From The Past

This Month In Wrestling History

“BREAKING DOWN MARSHALL LAW”



EVERETT MARSHALL vs. GEORGE ZAHARIAS

November 11, 1936

NWA World champion Everett Marshall prepares to hit the floor after being kicked out of the ring by a game George Zaharias during this wild title match in Cleveland. Zaharias dominated the early part of the match, but Marshall, an outstanding scientific talent, battled back strongly to pin Zaharias at the 25:52 mark. Marshall had won the NWA title from Ali Baba on June 26, 1936, and held on to the belt until December 29, 1937—when Lou Thesz defeated Marshall to begin the first of his six title reigns.



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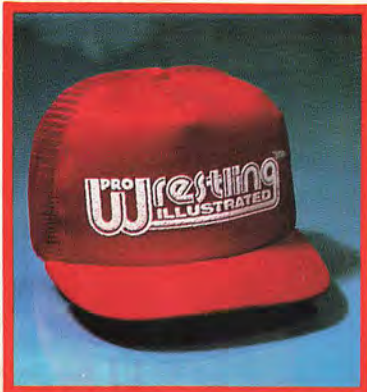
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